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United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme
First session
Nairobi, 23–27 June 2014
Items 5, 6, 7 of the provisional agenda*

Policy issues

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of United Nations summits, in particular the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and major intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the United Nations Environment Assembly

Budget and programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 and the Environment Fund and other budgetary matters

Draft resolutions/decisions prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme for consideration by the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

Summary

The Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme submits herewith, pursuant to the Committee's mandate set out in Governing Council decision 27/2, draft resolutions/decisions prepared by the Committee for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its first session.

* UNEP/EA.1/1.

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Annex

Resolution/Decision 1: Revised biennial programme of work and budget for 2014-2015

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the approved medium-term strategy for 2014–2017 and the approved programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014–2015,[1]

[*Reaffirms* Governing Council decision 27/13 on the proposed medium-term strategy for 2014-2017 and the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014-2015,[2] which approved appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of 245 million United States dollars as indicated in the following table:

Environment Fund programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014–2015 (thousands of United States dollars)

A. Executive direction and management	**7 794**
B. Programme of work	**209 394**
1. Climate change	39 510
2. Disasters and conflicts	17 886
3. Ecosystem management	36 831
4. Environmental governance	21 895
5. Chemicals and waste	31 175
6. Resource efficiency	45 329
7. Environment under review	16 768
C. Fund programme reserve	**12 500**
D. Programme support	**15 312**
Total	**245 000**

]

Noting the approval of the United Nations General Assembly of USD 34.7 million from the regular budget of the United Nations to UNEP,

Approves the revised programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014–2015,[3] which takes into account the implications of the level of resources from the regular budget of the UN to UNEP.

[*Invites* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Director, to carry out a review of the functions of UNEP staffing to redefine and recategorize its posts into three categories: management and administration, programme support and operational programme posts where management and administration posts as well as programme support posts are considered as non-operational and programme posts are considered as operational staff in order to determine which posts should be financed from the regular budget of the United Nations and at the same time to consider the scope for efficiency savings in the numbers of staff posts.]

[1] UNEP/GC.27/9.

[2] UNEP/GC.27/17.

[3] UNEA/EA.1/7/Add.1.

Resolution/Decision 2: Proposed biennial programme of work and budget for 2016–2017

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the approved medium-term strategy for 2014–2017[4] and the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017,

Noting General Assembly resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012 and 67/213 of 21 December 2012, by which the General Assembly strengthened the United Nations Environment Programme,

[Affirming that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country in accordance with its national circumstances and priorities, to achieve sustainable development],

[*Recalls* the increase of regular budget funding from US Dollars14 Million to 35 Million on 27 December 2013 – USA to provide text]

1. *Approves* the programme of work for the biennium 2016–2017[, taking into account relevant decisions of the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP];

2. *Also approves* appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of [285 million] United States dollars, of which a maximum of 122 million dollars is allocated to [defraying] post costs for the biennium for the purposes indicated in the following table:

Environment Fund programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (thousands of United States dollars)

A. Executive direction and management	**10 041**
B. Programme of work	**243 983**
1. Climate change	46 057
2. Disasters and conflicts	20 795
3. Ecosystem management	42 847
4. Environmental governance	25 443
5. Chemicals and waste	36 417
6. Resource efficiency	52 956
7. Environment under review	19 468
C. Fund programme reserve	**14 000**
D. Programme support	**16 975**
Total	**[285 000]**

3. *Stresses* the importance of extensive and transparent consultations between the Executive Director and the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the preparation of the draft programme of work and budget and the need for timely scheduling of meetings and provision of information to facilitate that process and in this regard welcomes the progress made;

4. *Emphasizes* the need for comprehensive information regarding proposed expenditures and contributions from all sources of funding, including staffing information, to be provided to the Committee of Permanent Representatives well in advance of consideration of the programme of work and budget, and requests the Executive Director to hold timely consultations on the preparation of all future programmes of work and budgets prior to transmittal to other appropriate bodies;

5. *Welcomes* the progress in the implementation of the medium-term strategy 2010-2013, including progress in results-based management, as described in the programme performance report for the biennium 2012-2013;

[4] UNEP/GC.27/9.

6. *[Also welcomes] [Acknowledges]* the progress made in increasing [the share of][allocations from] the Environment Fund [allocated] to activities and operations in the 2016–2017 programme;

7. *Authorizes* the Executive Director, with a view to ensuring better conformity with the practices in other United Nations bodies, to reallocate resources between subprogramme budget lines up to a maximum of 10 per cent [of the appropriations to which [or from which] the resources are reallocated] of those mentioned in paragraph 2 above and to consult the Committee of Permanent Representatives regarding any allocation above that contained in the programme of work and budget approved by UNEA;

8. *Also authorizes* the Executive Director, in duly justified exceptional circumstances, to reallocate funds in excess of 10 per cent and up to 20 per cent of the budget lines mentioned in paragraph 2 above in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

9. *Further authorizes* the Executive Director to adjust, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the level of Environment Fund allocations to subprogrammes, bringing them in line with possible variations in income compared to the approved level of appropriations;

10. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to enter into forward commitments not exceeding 20 million United States dollars for Environment Fund activities for the biennium 2018–2019;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to apply a prudent approach to the management of resources from all sources, including the Environment Fund, including through the careful management of contractual arrangements;

12. *Also requests* the Executive Director to continue its current emphasis on the achievement of results for the achievement of programme objectives and the efficient and transparent use of resources to that end, subject to United Nations processes of review, evaluation and oversight;

13. *Further requests* the Executive Director to continue to report to Member States, through the Committee of Permanent Representatives on a yearly basis, and to the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP at its biennial sessions, on the progress made in respect of the performance of each subprogramme and its expected accomplishments and on the execution of the budget of the Environment Fund, including voluntary contributions, expenditures and reallocations of appropriations or adjustments of allocations;

14. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to report to Member States, through the Committee of the Permanent Representatives in a streamlined manner through the merging of progress reporting on administrative and budgetary matters with its programme performance reporting;

15. *Also requests* the Executive Director to continue to organize regular briefings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the programme and budget performance of each subprogramme, to enable the Committee to perform its monitoring task adequately;

16. *Further requests* the Executive Director to include information on regional programmes and activities by region in each subprogramme in the progress report on the implementation of the programme of work;

17. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that trust funds and earmarked contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme are used to fund activities that are in line with the programme of work, apart from those funds administered by the United Nations Environment Programme on behalf of other intergovernmental bodies;

18. *Urges* all member States in a position to do so to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund, and requests the Executive Director in light of the universal membership of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue efforts to broaden the donor base and mobilize resources from all sources, including from stakeholders;

19. *Recalls* the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development stating that the United Nations Environment Programme should have secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations, and voluntary contributions to fulfil its mandate, and invites the Secretary General of the United Nations in his budget proposals for an allocation from the United Nations regular budget for 2016-2017 to the United Nations Environment Programme to take into account the need to continue implementing paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a)-(h) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable

Development[, as well as the [recommendations derived from the] review of functions [that has been recommended] and opportunities for increasing the efficient use of resources];

20. [*Notes* that the work programme and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 is part of a continuing process and that the allocation of the United Nations regular budget to the United Nations Environment Programme will be approved by the United Nations General Assembly at its seventieth session;]

21. *Notes [Reaffirms]* the positive effect of the Voluntary Indicative Scale of Contributions (VISC) to broaden the base of contributions to, and to enhance predictability in the voluntary financing of the Environment Fund, and requests the Executive Director to continue adapting the Voluntary Indicative Scale of Contributions (VISC) inter alia, in light of the universal membership of the United Nations Environment Programme, in accordance with decisions SS VII/1 and any subsequent decisions;

22. *Recalls* paragraph 13 of GC Decision 19/32 and requests the Executive Director to ensure that the secretariat provides the documentation and information related to the medium-term strategy and programme of work and budget to the Committee of Permanent Representatives at least four weeks in advance of the meeting at which it is to be considered;.

23. [*Requests* the Executive Director to submit a report to the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme on any implications of latest information on funding on the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016-2017;]

24. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit for consideration and approval by the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP at [its second][a future] session, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, a prioritized, results-oriented and streamlined medium-term strategy for the period 2018-2021 and programme of work and budget for the biennium 2018–2019 that [helps secure and stabilize its funding and] continues to monitor and manage the share of the Environment Fund devoted respectively to post costs and non-post costs while clearly prioritizing the application of the resources of the Environment Fund to programme activities.

Resolution/Decision 3: Coordination of the United Nations system in the field of the environment

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 of the General Assembly,

Recalling also the outcome document, "Future we want", of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development endorsed by *the* General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in particular its paragraph 88,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 67/213 of 21 December 2012, 67/251 of 13 March 2013 and 68/215 of 24 December 2013,

Recalling also Governing Council decisions 27/2 and 27/7 of 22 February 2013,

Determined to strengthen its functions to provide general policy guidance for the direction and coordination of environmental programmes within the United Nations system in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII),

I. Process to prepare a proposal for a United Nations system-wide strategy on the environment

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to initiate, in collaboration with all relevant bodies, funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, a process to prepare a proposal for a United Nations system-wide strategy on the environment which may serve as guidance for medium-range and long-range planning, in particular for achieving internationally agreed environmental objectives and goals through a coherent system-wide approach;

2. *Recommends* that the General Assembly invite all relevant bodies, funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system to contribute to the process referred to in paragraph 1 in a timely manner;

3. *Invites* the Executive Director to utilize, as appropriate, all the relevant coordination mechanisms within the United Nations system, *in particular* the Environment Management Group, in the process referred to in paragraph 1;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit the proposal referred to in paragraph 1 to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session.

II. Environment Management Group

5. *Notes* the progress report prepared under the guidance of the senior officials of the Environment Management Group at their nineteenth meeting, as presented by the Executive Director;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the continued efforts of the Environment Management Group to enhance interagency cooperation in mainstreaming environmental considerations into activities of the United Nations system at the policy, programme and management levels, in close cooperation with the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies;

7. *Welcomes* the Online Mapping Knowledge Management Tool on Biodiversity prepared by the Environment Management Group in support of implementation of Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, as well as Group's approach to contribute to the mid-term review process of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and considering ways to integrate the Aichi Biodiversity Targets into country level planning tools such as the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Environment Management Group to the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, by providing a United Nations Action Plan (2012-2018) for Coordinated Action in the Drylands;

9. *Welcomes* the establishment of Environment Management Group's Issue Management Group on Sound Management of Chemicals;

10. *Encourages* the Environment Management Group to continue to support efforts for promoting sustainability in the work of the United Nations system, including in the areas of environmental sustainability management and environmental peer reviews.

Decision 4: Implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 6 of the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council decision 27/2,

Decides that each of the five regions shall be represented by 2 members in the 10-member Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

Resolution/Decision 5: Omnibus decision on Science-Policy Interface

[*Version 28 March 2014, based on the outcome of OECPR*]
The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/288 of July 2012 on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", in particular paragraph 88 [, and also recalling Governing Council decision 27/2/8]

[*Recalling also* Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 8, in which the Council decided that the governing body of the United Nations Environment Programme will promote a strong science-policy interface, by reviewing the state of the environment, by building on existing international instruments, assessments, panels and information networks, including through an enhanced summary for policy makers of the Global Environment outlook and, in this regard, requests the Executive Director to identify critical gaps and present a report, with recommendations, to the governing body,]

Mindful of the functions and responsibilities of UNEP as outlined in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, including to keep under review the world environmental situation, and recalling the Governing Council decision 27/11 of 22 February 2013 on the State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to meeting substantive environmental challenges,

Acknowledging in particular paragraph 90 of General Assembly resolution 66/288, in which the Assembly its called for strengthened assessment activities and improved access to data and information, and noting the need to integrate the economic, environmental and social dimensions of sustainable development and to disseminate and share evidence-based environmental information on critical and emerging economic, environmental and social issues,

Recognizing the potential benefits of a scientifically sound and evidence-based detailed assessment of the state of the environment for awareness-raising, informed policy formulation and decision-making in the context of sustainable development,

[*Welcoming* the progress made during the design and development of the UNEP Live as [an initiative] [a mechanism] to significantly enhance the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the future approach to keeping the world environment situation under review, including capacity-building and technology support for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve their data collection and assessment efforts and ensure that data collected and information generated are made available to policy makers and the public,]

[*Recalling* paragraph 88 (f) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and paragraph 20 of Governing Council decision 27/2, which calls for the enhancement of the operationalization of the Bali Strategic Plan for technology support and capacity-building,]

Recognizing also that there are gaps in our knowledge of the state of the environment resulting from a lack of current data and information generation and dissemination [Noting] [and] that there is an urgent need for Governments to take action to bridge those gaps through the building of capacities, the strengthening of existing mechanisms for monitoring the state of the environment, [in particular in [relation to information available through] [connection with the reporting requirements of] the MEAs], and producing [policy-] relevant] environmental assessments [which are relevant to decision makers] [.These should be] based on the use of established comparable methods for data collection and analysis, paying particular attention to the needs of developing countries, including capacity-building [, financial] and technology support,

Welcoming also the continued support provided by UNEP to the work of the scientific panels [such as the IPCC [and] IPBES [and UNSCEAR] [, [inter-governmental ones and IRP]],

[*Welcoming* the release of the third Africa Environment Outlook (AEO-3) report that reveals important linkages between health and the environment in Africa,]

[*Welcoming also* the release of the Arab Region Atlas of Our Changing Environment, which examines the environmental changes that have taken place across the Arab Region,]

[*Requests* the Executive Director to undertake capacity building and technology support for developing countries and countries in transition to improve their data collection management and assessment;]

I. Science-policy interface

1. *Welcomes* the briefing of the Executive Director on science-policy interface to the High-level segment of UNEA 1, and requests the Executive Director to further explore ways of communicating [the] key scientific findings from the assessment work of UNEP in [all] the official languages of the United Nations languages towards citizens, [policy makers] the media and research community and in order to support informed decision making at all levels;

2. [*Requests* the Executive Director to provide information from existing and ongoing assessments to guide future policy debates at UNEA;]

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to promote strong science-policy interface by expanding partnerships with centres of excellence and *international* [and other] research programmes; promoting integrated and peer-reviewed environmental *assessments* and [policy analysis]; working closely with member states, business [and communities of practice] to establish up-to-date quality assured data flows. [to insert language on supporting developing countries];

4. *Also requests* the Executive Director to foster collaboration with MEAs Secretariats, relevant United Nations agencies and programmes and scientific panels for joint efforts to strengthen the science policy interface and provide tools for integrated approaches [and [informed] decision-making];

5. *Reiterates* the request to the Executive Director to present a gap analysis report on [environmental] data, information and assessments as well as [recommendations on] [policy] instruments for strengthened science policy interface [, with recommendations, to UNEA-2];

II. Strengthening [the environmental dimension of] sustainable development

6. *Invites* the Executive Director to continue to provide expert input on the environmental dimension [inter alia] [through the high-level political forum on sustainable development task force] in relation to sustainable development goals in accordance of the Rio + 20 outcome;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to work closely with relevant UN bodies, including UN DESA, on the production of the Global Sustainable Development Report [to be submitted to the High Level Political Forum];

III. Assessments

8. *Requests* the Executive Director, within the Programme of Work and budget, to undertake the preparation of the sixth Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6) [in accordance with the proposed staged approach] and [within the framework of UNEP Live] [and supported by UNEP Live] and [ensure the [coordination of] [coherence between the] GEO reports with UNEP Live]. [The scope and objectives of GEO-6 will be defined by a transparent intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder consultation, resulting in a scientifically credible, peer-reviewed GEO-6, and its accompanying Summary for Policy Makers (SPM) to be endorsed by UNEA [3] [and no later than 2018];

9. [*Also requests* the Executive Director to consult with all UNEP regions regarding their priorities to be taken up in the global assessment.]

10. [*further requests* the Executive Director, within the programme of work, to contribute to the dissemination and outreach of the findings of relevant bodies, inter alia, IPCC, IPBES and IRP in order to amplify diffusion among policy-makers and the public to the maximum possible extent;]

IV. UNEP Live

11. [*Encourages*][*Invites*] Governments, major groups and stakeholders, United Nations specialized agencies and programmes and [the Secretariat of the] MEAs, international and regional scientific bodies to engage in the future development of UNEP Live and share appropriate [and credible] [quality assured] [environmentally relevant] data and information resources to support [the environmental dimension of] sustainable development assessment processes [that are peer-reviewed] [which shall be accessible] [and to be accessed] via the UNEP Live platform;

12. [*Invites* Governments in a position to do so and relevant donors to provide financial support to UNEP Live, particularly in the area of technology support, data infrastructure and capacity building so that developing countries can engage effectively in the development of UNEP Live and take advantage of the benefits that the platform will offer;]

13. *Requests* the Executive Director to prepare, within the Programme of Work and budget and in consultation with governments, United Nations agencies and programmes, MEAs and international and regional scientific bodies, a long-term plan [for the development [and use] of UNEP Live through to the year 2021] with particular reference to future assessment modalities, stakeholder engagement, institutional networking and partnership activities, content development, technology support and capacity building [, particularly for developing countries] and taking into account the existing scientific work and processes of UNEP and to present this plan to UNEA-[2][3];

14. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to UNEA-2 on the implementation of this decision;

Resolution/Decision 6: Omnibus decision on chemicals and wastes

[Version 8 April 2014 – compilation of country proposals and cleared by the facilitator of the open-ended group on chemicals and wastes following the OECPR, 24 – 28 March 2014]

[The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and internationally agreed [development] goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, [and] the goal that by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on human health and the environment[as well as other relevant global environmental goals],

alt. Recalling the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development , entitled "The future we want", in particular the aim to achieve, by 2020, the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and of hazardous waste in ways that lead to minimisation of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment,

Welcoming the adoption of the Minamata Convention on Mercury at the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries in Kumamoto, Japan on 10 October 2013,

Welcoming the progress in implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and underlining the importance of the development of the overall orientation and guidance for achieving the 2020 goal of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

alt. Welcoming the role of UNEP as a participating organization in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and underlining the value of the continuing cooperation between UNEP and other participating *organizations* and observers of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC),

Recalling the Geneva Statement on the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste of the Conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions expressing the Ministers' willingness to ensure that chemicals and waste aspects of sustainable development are appropriately considered and reflected in the outcomes of the post-2015 process/sustainable development goals,

Recalling decision 27/12 of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, and having considered the progress report of the Executive Director on its implementation,

Noting decision 1/6 of the First Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention entitled 'Institutional arrangements for the implementation of the Convention: establishment of a Secretariat', of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa adopted at its first session held in Bamako from 24 to 26 June 2013, by which the Conference of the Parties decided that the functions of the Secretariat to the Convention shall be carried out by the United Nations Environment Programme, provided that the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme authorizes the Executive Director to perform such functions,

I. Coordinated use of regional centres

1. *Acknowledges* the role of the regional centres of the Basel and Stockholm conventions in supporting Parties in the implementation of the chemicals and waste conventions and SAICM;

2. *Invites* parties and other stakeholders to promote the full and coordinated use of regional centres to strengthen the regional delivery of technical assistance under all conventions and to promote coherent chemicals and waste management, bearing in mind the existing and ongoing work of other multilateral environmental agreements and institutions. This work should promote the sound management of chemicals and of hazardous wastes for sustainable development as well as for the protection of human health and the environment;

3. *Requests* the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions and the regional centres to exchange information about their capacities and work programmes, and to develop a meaningful regional delivery strategy taking into account inputs of the Interim Secretariat of the Minamata Convention and the SAICM secretariat;

4. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, other relevant international financial institutions and instruments, the regional centre host countries and others from the donor community to provide financial support necessary for the regional centres to carry out projects aimed at cooperation and coordination in support of implementation of the four conventions and SAICM;

5. *Invites* Governments to integrate the regional centres of the three conventions in the implementation of the capacity building activities under the special programme;

II. Enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and waste cluster [and strengthening the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term]

6. *[Notes][Welcomes]* the report of the Executive Director on strengthening the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term, which was the outcome of the [country driven] consultative process on [enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and waste cluster][the challenges to and options for further enhancing cooperation in the chemicals and waste cluster in the long term];

6. *alt Welcomes* the report of the Executive Director on the consultative process on enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and waste cluster, and endorses the outcome document of the process, entitled "Strengthening the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term", annexed to the present decision;

7. *Recognizes* [that][the continued relevance of the] sound management of chemicals and wastes [will need to continue] beyond 2020;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director to forward his report, together with any related documents from the consultative process, to the next session of the Open-Ended Working Group of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management[, the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the governing bodies of the members of the IOMC, the meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and other relevant fora] for [its] [their] consideration;

8. *alt Requests* the Executive Director to forward this outcome document to the organisations and bodies listed below and to invite them to consider appropriate follow up action to strengthen the sound management of chemicals and waste in the long term:

(a) The High-level Political Forum on sustainable development, the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant forums;

(b) The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, at its sixth session;

(c) The Open-Ended Working Group of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its fourth meeting;

(d) The Conferences of the Parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions;

(e) The Inter-Organization Coordinating Committee of the IOMC and to the Governing bodies of the members of the IOMC;

(f) Any other public or private organisations or bodies which express an interest or which the Executive Director considers relevant on this matter;

III. Financing chemicals and waste

9. *Invites* Governments and others to contribute with new [and][.] additional[, adequate, predictable and accessible] funds to the financing of chemicals and waste through the GEF and others;

10. *Invites* the GEF to continue to expand the chemicals and waste window ensuring the necessary funding in accordance with the growing needs for the implementation of the chemicals and waste cluster, including SAICM in developing countries;

11. *Urges* Governments in a position to do so to mobilize new and additional financial resources to ensure the effective establishment and quick start implementation of the Special Programme;

IV. Integrated approach to financing sound management of chemicals and waste

12. *Welcomes* an integrated approach to address the financing of the sound management of chemicals and wastes, and underscores that the three components of an integrated approach: mainstreaming, industry involvement and dedicated external finance are mutually reinforcing and are all important for the financing of the sound management of chemicals and waste at all levels;

13. *Adopts* the terms of reference for a Special Programme, annexed to this decision, to be funded by voluntary contributions, to support institutional strengthening at the national level to enhance implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management;

14. *Requests* the Executive Director, consistent with the terms of reference for the Special Programme, to [establish and] administer the Special Programme trust fund, and provide a secretariat to deliver administrative support to the Programme;

15. *Also requests* the Executive Director to submit the terms of reference for the Special Programme to the Conferences of the parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Open-ended Working Group of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management for information;

16. *Welcomes* the recommendation by the GEF Council to the GEF Assembly to revise its instrument to an integrated focal area and strategy on chemicals and wastes at its sixth replenishment;

16. *alt Welcomes* the revision of the GEF Instrument made by the GEF Assembly so as to include a focal area on chemicals and waste;

17. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on the engagement of UNEP to facilitate the implementation of all elements of the integrated approach at the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly;

V. Lead and cadmium

18. *Recognizes* the significant [international dimension of the] risks to human health and the environment arising from the releases of lead and cadmium into the environment;

19. *Emphasizes* that further action is needed to address the challenges posed by lead and cadmium;

20. *Invites* Governments to participate in the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint;

21. *Welcomes* the upcoming Alliance Forum focusing on the development of national legislation to limit lead in paint, and requests UNEP, in coordination with WHO, to build capacity on lead paint through a series of regional workshops;

22. *Welcomes* the compilation of information on techniques for emission abatement and on the possibility of replacing lead and cadmium with less hazardous substances or techniques made available on the UNEP website;

23. *Request* the Executive Director to continue compiling such information and make an analysis available through regional awareness-raising activities;

VI. Mercury

24. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Minamata Convention on Mercury at the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries in Kumamoto, Japan, on 10 October 2013;

25. *Invites* all countries that have not already done so to sign and ratify the Minamata Convention on Mercury;

25. *alt Welcomes* ratifications to date and the growing number of signatories to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, invites those that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention in order to permit its entry into force as soon as possible, calls upon those Governments that have not yet signed the Convention to consider doing so in the near future, and requests the interim secretariat of the Convention to assist countries in their ratification work, subject to the availability of resources for this purpose;

26. *Welcomes* the decision by the Conferences of the Parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions to express interest and signal their readiness to cooperate and coordinate with the Minamata Convention, and the reciprocal resolution of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Minamata Convention on Mercury;

A. Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

27. *Acknowledges* the important contribution of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management to enable all relevant stakeholders to ensure sound management of chemicals and wastes;

27. alt Welcomes the important contribution of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management in facilitating action by all relevant stakeholders towards the sound management of chemicals and waste;

28. *Emphasizes* the need for continued and strengthened multisectoral and multi-stakeholder involvement and invites the SAICM Open-Ended Working Group and the fourth meeting of the International Conference on Chemicals Management to consider ways to improve such involvement in an overarching, proactive, meaningful and continuous manner and to play an active role in the discussion on the post-2020 chemicals and waste agenda; and in doing so reiterates the need for an approach to the sound management of chemicals and wastes at all levels that is also able to respond in an effective, efficient, coherent and coordinated manner to new and emerging issues and challenges;

29. *Underlines* the importance of the continued support of UNEP for the SAICM process, and reminds the Executive Director of UNEP of his responsibility for SAICM and of the lead role of UNEP in arranging for an effective and efficient SAICM secretariat;

29. *alt Requests* the Executive Director to continue to support the Strategic Approach, particularly in developing orientation and guidance to implement the 2020 goal, taking into account the vision and long term policy elements endorsed in paragraph [XX] above, and to report on progress at the next meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP;

30. *Invites* the Director General of the WHO to assume a leading role of her/his organization in the SAICM secretariat and provide appropriate staff and other resources to it;

30. *alt Invites* members of the Inter-organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals to consider ways to support the Strategic Approach secretariat, including possible staffing support; reiterates its concern about the withdrawal of staffing support to this secretariat by WHO and further reiterates the invitation to the World Health Assembly to consider reinstating the support of WHO, at the earliest date possible;

31. *Calls* on Governments, intergovernmental organizations, industry, civil society and other SAICM stakeholders to [continuously][provide continued and enhanced] support [to the] implementation and further development of SAICM;

32. *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, industry and others in a position to do so to make financial and in-kind contributions to the Strategic Approach, its secretariat and its implementation, including through the programme of work of the members of the Inter-organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals;

B. Sustainable development

33. *Confirms* that the sound management of chemicals and waste is essential for achieving sustainable development and contributes significantly to all three pillars of sustainable development;

34. *Invites* the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals to include and mainstream sound management of chemicals and waste in the future sustainable development goals;

33. and 34. *alt Emphasizes* that strengthened sound management of chemicals and waste in the long term is essential for sustainable development and should be embedded in the sustainable development agenda;

C. Waste

35. *Requests* the Executive Director to include recommendations on the environmentally sound management of all types of wastes, particularly in relation to overarching chemicals and wastes policies and in the course of strengthening the sound management of chemicals and waste in the long term, in the global outlook on waste prevention, minimization and management which is currently being developed;

36. *Authorizes* the Executive Director of UNEP to carry out:

(a) The functions of the Secretariat to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa, and

(b) Resources mobilization and fund raising activities in order to foster the effective implementation of the Bamako Convention;

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37. Requests the Executive Director to present a report on [its][UNEP's] work on chemicals and wastes[, including the developments on strengthening the sound management of chemicals and waste in the long term,] to the next session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;

38. Requests Governments, intergovernmental organizations, financial institutions, the private sector and others to provide financial and other resources for the implementation of this decision.]

Resolution/Decision 7: Ecosystem-based adaptation

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Noting the IPCC-5 assessment report which confirms that climate systems are warming and that global temperatures will continue to rise in the coming centuries even if the green houses gases are stabilized, affecting natural systems on which humanity relies and highlighting the need to adapt to the impacts of climate change,

Noting also General Assembly resolution 67/210, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time; expressed deep concern that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing increased impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea-level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, further threatening food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and; emphasized that adaptation to climate change represents an immediate and urgent global priority,

Recalling paragraph 190 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", which expressed concern that all countries are already experiencing the adverse impacts of climate change, which is threatening efforts to achieve sustainable development, eradicate poverty and achieve food security, and emphasised that climate change is an immediate and urgent priority,

Noting the Africa Adaptation Gap Report of UNEP, which indicates that climate change will affect among other sectors biodiversity rates, water supply, human health and food production and that it is likely to increase the number of people at risk of hunger as well as the proportion of malnourished people in a region where 22 per cent of the population already suffers from hunger,

Acknowledging the dependence of all countries particularly developing countries on ecosystems for livelihoods, food production and well-being, including adaptation to the impacts of climate change,

Noting with concern that the resilience of many ecosystems is likely to be exceeded this century by an unprecedented combination of climate change, associated disturbances, and other global change drivers,

Recognizing the direct link between the adverse impacts of climate change on ecosystems and ecosystem's ability to provide for local food production and national food security,

Conscious of the heightened vulnerability of developing countries particularly LDCs and SIDS to the impacts of climate change,

Recognizing the sovereignty and stewardship of developing countries over their ecosystems and natural capital, which are threatened by climate change,

Recalling Governing Council decision 22/3, in which the Council requested UNEP to support regional and national action plans to reduce the vulnerability of developing countries to climate change,

Recognizing the ongoing work of United Nations Environment Programme on ecosystem-based adaptation activities to reduce vulnerability to climate change and subsequent vulnerabilities in areas such as food security,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director of UNEP, in partnership with Governments, scientific institutions, United Nations agencies and other relevant stakeholders, to continue providing and to enhance support to developing countries at their request, for the development and implementation of national and regional ecosystems based adaptation programmes and activities through, inter alia, practical tools and pilot projects to demonstrate the use of those tools and other policymaking technical support,

2. *Calls upon* all countries to include and improve ecosystems based adaptation in their climate change adaptation and food security policies and plans,

3. *Calls upon* countries in position to do so, to financially support the development and implementation of eco-system based adaptation programmes, projects and policy development,

4. *Requests* the Executive Director of UNEP to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly of UNEP at its second session on progress in the implementation of the present decision.

Resolution/Decision 8: Strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

[*Recalling*] [*Noting*] the World Health Organization estimate that air pollution contributes to 7 million premature deaths each year globally, a burden of disease that may now exceed the burdens of malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS combined,

Recognizing that poor air quality is a growing challenge in the context of sustainable development, particularly in cities and urban centres, and that national efforts to improve air quality are needed,

Recognizing further that air pollution is an impediment to national economic development, impacting, inter alia, worker productivity, health-care costs and tourism,

Aware that reducing air pollution is a priority to protect public health and provide co-benefits for the climate, ecosystem services, biodiversity and food security,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, by which the Assembly endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", in which [Member States] [participants] committed to promote sustainable development policies that support healthy air quality in the context of sustainable cities and human settlements and recognized that reducing air pollution leads to positive effects on health,

Aware that the nineteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean adopted a decision for a Regional Plan of Action on Atmospheric Pollution,

Recalling with appreciation existing efforts to support national action to improve air quality, such as UNEP Live, the WHO guidelines on ambient air quality, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, and the important contributions that networks, such as the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia and the Malé Declaration, have made to sharing information and best practices,

1. *Urges* Governments to take action to improve air quality to protect human health and the environment, and promote sustainable development;

2. *Invites* Governments to establish and implement nationally determined ambient air quality standards and emissions standards for their significant sources of air pollution;

3. *Also invites* Governments to make air quality data more easily accessible and understandable to the public;

4. [4. *Invites* Governments to report to the UNEP secretariat on their efforts taken pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 of the present decision prior to the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, in 2016;]

5. *Requests* the Executive Director:

(a) To undertake expanded capacity-building activities on air quality, such as workshops and policy development assistance, to support Governments in their efforts to implement paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this decision;

(b) To raise awareness of the public health and environmental risks of air pollution and the multiple benefits from improved air quality through the Global Environmental Outlook 6 assessment process and public outreach campaigns, and across the United Nations system[, and, in particular, in the context of the discussions of the post-2015 development agenda];

(c) To explore opportunities for strengthened cooperation on air pollution within the United Nations system, in particular with the World Health Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, including establishing linkages between UNEP Live, WMO Information System (WIS), and other relevant information management systems;

(d) To undertake regional or subregional, as appropriate, assessments by 2016, focused on identifying gaps in air quality management capabilities, opportunities for cooperation, and air pollution mitigation opportunities, building upon existing cooperative efforts on air pollution;

6. Requests the Executive Director to submit a report on the information provided by Governments [pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 of the present decision][and to provide an update on progress made in implementing the present decision to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session.]

Resolution/Decision 9: Marine plastic debris and microplastics

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling the concern reflected in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", that the health of oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris, especially plastic, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals, and nitrogen-based compounds, from [a number of][numerous] marine and land-based sources, and the commitment to take action to significantly reduce the incidence and impacts of such pollution on marine ecosystems,

Noting the international action being taken to promote sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and of hazardous waste in ways that lead to minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment,

Recalling the Manila Declaration of the Third Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities which highlighted the relevance of the Honolulu Strategy and the Honolulu Commitment and recommended the establishment of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter,

Recalling also the decisions of the eleventh Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity on addressing impacts of marine debris on marine and coastal biodiversity,

Recalling that the General Assembly declared 2014 the International Year of Small Island Developing States and that such States have identified waste management among their priorities for action,

1. [*Notes with concern* the serious impact which marine litter stemming from land and sea-based sources can have on human health and marine ecosystems, including their living and non-living resources, as well as economic activities such as fisheries and tourism;]

2. [*Stresses* the importance of the precautionary principle which requires adequate measures and action even in the *absence* of conclusive scientific evidence;]

3. *Recognizes* the significant risks [to the marine environment, marine natural resources, fisheries, tourism, economy and human health] arising from the inadequate management and disposal of plastic [debris, when released into the marine environment];

4. *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, industry [, including maritime users, consumers] and other [responsible actor]s to cooperate with the Global Partnership on Marine Litter to [implement][support] the Honolulu Strategy and facilitate information exchange through the online marine litter network;

5. *Recognizes* that [micro]plastics in the marine environment are a rapidly increasing problem due to the large and still increasing use [worldwide] of plastics[, including microplastics][worldwide], and because plastic debris in the marine environment is steadily fragmenting into microplastics;

6. *Also recognizes* the need for more knowledge and research on the source, fate and impact of microplastics on biodiversity, marine ecosystems and human health; noting recent knowledge that such particles can be ingested by biota, and [can][could] be transferred to higher levels in the marine food chain, causing adverse effects;

7. *Notes* that microplastics may also contribute to the transfer in the marine ecosystems of persistent organic pollutants, other persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic substances and other contaminants which are in or adhering to the particles;

8. *Recognizes* that microplastics in the marine environment originate from a wide range of sources, including through break-down of plastic debris in the oceans, industrial emissions and via sewage and run-off from the use of products containing microplastics;

9. *Emphasizes* that further action is needed to address the challenges posed by marine plastic debris and microplastics, in particular by addressing such materials at source;

10. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter launched in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012 and the convening of the first Partnership Forum in 2013;

11. *Welcomes* the adoption by the contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention in December 2013 of the world's first Regional Action Plan to combat marine litter, and urges parties to [collaborate through relevant][other] Regional Sea Conventions [and River Commissions, with a view] to adopt[ing] such action plans in their region(s);

12. *Also welcomes* the work undertaken by the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection (GESAMP) to produce an assessment report on microplastics scheduled to be launched in November 2014[, taking into account, as far as possible, the most updates studies and data];

13. [*Welcomes* the work undertaken by the International Whaling Commission on assessing the impacts of marine debris on Cetaceans;]

14. [*Invites*][*Requests*] the Executive Director to undertake a study on marine microplastics, [building on existing work, and] focussing on

(a) [Key sources and effects on human health and the environment;]

(b) Possible measures and best available techniques to prevent [the accumulation] and reduce the level of microplastics in the marine environment;

(c) Specification of areas especially in need for more research;

(d) Any other priority areas identified in the GESAMP assessment described in paragraph 10.

15. *Also invites* the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and relevant organisations involved in pollution control and chemicals and waste management, to contribute to the study described in paragraph [11][13];

16. *Urges* Governments and the private sector to promote [a more resource-efficient use and] the sound management of plastics and microplastics in processes, products and waste disposal in a way that prevents a further build-up of microplastics in the marine environment;

17. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, the scientific community, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders to share relevant information with the Executive Director pertinent to the study described in paragraph [11][13];

18. *Invites* those in a position to do so, to provide financial and other support to conduct the study in paragraph 10;

19. *Requests* the Executive Director to present the study on microplastics for the consideration by the next session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme.

Resolution/Decision 10: Global Environmental Monitoring System Water (GEMS/Water)

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recognizing that good water quality and adequate water quantity are key to sustainable development and human well-being as well as an indispensable prerequisite for protecting biodiversity and the integrity of the planet's ecosystems,

Recalling paragraph 124 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", which calls for taking measures to significantly reducing water pollution and increasing water quality,

Recalling Governing Council decisions 23/2, 24/16, 26/14 and 27/1, which set the stage for GEMS/Water, defined its mandate and invited member States to participate in the efforts to provide global water data and information,

1. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Government of Canada for having hosted and supported GEMS/Water in the past and acknowledges the achievements made, welcomes the commitments by the Governments of Germany, Ireland [and Brazil] to support GEMS/Water in the future;

2. *Considers* GEMS/Water well suited to supporting the future implementation of water quality and water-pollution-related targets which may be part of the post-2015 development agenda that is still to be decided upon, through providing data and information for relevant assessments;

3. *Underlines* the need to further improve the global coverage and consistency of water quality data as well as to expand the GEMS/Water network and invites member States, relevant United Nations agencies, the international scientific community and as other interested partners and stakeholders to cooperate with the GEMS/Water Global Coordination Unit and GEMStat in building a reliable global freshwater monitoring and information system and to support relevant initiatives including through financial and in-kind contributions to the GEMS/Water network;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to collaborate closely with member states with the aim of identifying additional key elements of GEMS/Water such as regional hubs, capacity development programmes, technology support and new services as appropriate and to ensure the neccessary resources for enabling the GEMS/Water global coordination unit in UNEP to effectively and efficiently operate as the interface between national focal points, GEMStat, GEMS/Water regional hubs and relevant global partners;

5. *Encourages* the Executive Director to initiate discussions with Member States, United Nations agencies and other relevant institutions and organisations on a common data policy that allows the free and unrestricted exchange of water related data for the purpose of building a consistent data base in GEMStat, supporting UNEP Live and informing sustainable development policies;

6. *Invites* GEMS Water partners to support standardisation efforts with regard to water quality related data exchange and management and to coordinate these efforts with relevant ongoing initiatives;

7. *Encourages* member States to approach GEMS/Water with the aim of supporting and customizing capacity development efforts, improving freshwater monitoring systems, exchanging technology that can support national, regional and global assessments and to seek assistance for joining the GEMS/Water Network.

Resolution/Decision 11: Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling its decision SS.IV/1 of 18 June 1994 on the adoption of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility (hereinafter "the Instrument"),

Recalling the approval in May 2014 by the Fifth Assembly of the Global Environment Facility of a number of amendments to the Instrument relating to the GEF being available to operate as one of the financial mechanisms of the Minamata Convention on Mercury; to replace the "Ozone layer depletion" and "POPs" focal areas with "Chemicals and Waste" focal area; to update the eligibility criteria for accessing GEF funding; and reflect the change of the name from GEF Evaluation Office to GEF Independent Evaluation Office,

Having taken note of the report of the Executive Director[5]

1. *Decides* to adopt the following amendments to the Instrument, pursuant to the decision of the GEF Assembly in May, 2014 (Agenda Item 5):

(a) The amendment to paragraph 6 of the Instrument by which the Global Environment Facility shall serve as one of the financial mechanisms of the Minamata Convention on Mercury;

(b) The amendment to bullets a), b), c) and d) of paragraph 6 of the Instrument in order to clarify the GEF responsibilities under the conventions it serves in an orderly fashion;

(c) The amendment to paragraph 2 of the Instrument inviting the GEF to revise its focal area structure and strategy to address the chemicals and waste agenda, and that the "Ozone layer depletion" and "Persistent Organic Pollutants" focal areas will be replaced by the "Chemicals and Waste" focal area;

(d) The amendment to paragraph 9 of the Instrument, by which the eligibility criteria for access to GEF funding is updated to accommodate updates to eligibility criteria in the World Bank on financing, and in the UNDP on technical assistance;

(e) The amendment to paragraph 11 of the Instrument, by which the GEF shall have an Assembly, a Council, and a Secretariat including an independent evaluation office.

(f) The amendments to paragraph 21 of the Instrument, by which the functions of the independent evaluation office are further clarified.

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to consider ways of enhancing the capacity of the United Nations Environment Programme, as the principal United Nations body in the field of the environment, to strengthen its role as Implementing Agency of the Global Environment Facility;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Director to transmit the present decision to the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility.

Resolution/Decision 12: Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the management of trust funds,

I
Trust funds in support of the programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme

1. *Notes and approves* the establishment of the following trust funds since the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council:

A. General trust funds

(a) PES: Trust Fund for the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), which was established in 2014 with no expiry date;

B. Technical cooperation trust funds

(b) CLL: Trust Fund to Support the Activities of the Climate Technology Centre and Network, which was established in 2013 with an expiry date of 31 December 2017;

(c) GRL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood and Central Asia (EaP-GREEN) Programme, which was established in 2013 with no expiry date;

2. *Approves* the extension of the following trust funds, subject to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme receiving requests to do so from the relevant Governments or contracting parties:

[5] UNEP/EA.1/9.

C. General trust funds

(a) AML: General Trust Fund for the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(b) CWL: General Trust Fund for the African Ministers' Council on Water, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(c) MCL: General Trust Fund in Support of Activities on Mercury and its Compounds, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(d) SML: General Trust Fund for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management Quick Start Programme, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(e) WPL: General Trust Fund to Provide Support to the Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme Office and to Promote its Activities, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

D. Technical cooperation trust funds

(f) AFB: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for UNEP Activities as Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund Board, which is extended through 31 December 2017;

(g) BPL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Agreement with Belgium (financed by the Government of Belgium), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(h) CIL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund to Support the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Remediation Activities Following the Toxic Waste Incident in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(i) GNL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund in support of the Coordination Office of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (financed by the Government of the Netherlands), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(j) IAL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for Ireland Aid Multilateral Environment Fund for Africa (financed by the Government of Ireland), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(k) IPL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund to Assist the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in Developing Countries (financed by the Government of Sweden), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(l) MDL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for UNEP Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(m) REL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Promotion of Renewable Energy in the Mediterranean Region (financed by the Government of Italy), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(n) SEL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Agreement with Sweden, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(o) SFL: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Framework Agreement between Spain and UNEP, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(p) VML: Technical Cooperation Trust Fund to Assist Developing Countries to Take Action for the Protection of the Ozone Layer Under the Vienna Convention and Montreal Protocol (Financed by the Government of Finland), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

II

Trust funds in support of regional seas programmes, conventions, protocols and special funds

3. *Notes and approves* the establishment of the following trust fund since the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council:

(a) [PCL: Trust Fund for the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Teheran Convention);]

(b) SMU: Trust Fund to Support the Activities of the Secretariat of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, which was established in 2013 with an expiry date of 31 December 2015;

4. *Approves* the extension of the following trust funds subject to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme receiving requests to do so from the relevant Governments or contracting parties:

General trust funds

(a) BEL: General Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities under the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(b) BGL: General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Biosafety Protocol, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(c) BHL: Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities of the Biosafety Protocol, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(d) BIL: Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Parties, in particular the Least Developed and the Small Island Developing States among them, and Parties with Economies in Transition (Biosafety Protocol), which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(e) BTL: General Trust Fund for the Conservation of the European Bats Agreement, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(f) BYL: General Trust Fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(g) BZL: General Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Process of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(h) CAP: Trust Fund for the Core Budget of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians and related Protocols, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(i) CRL: Regional Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(j) EAL: Regional Seas Trust Fund for the Eastern African Region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(k) ESL: Regional Seas Trust Fund for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of East Asian Seas, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(l) MEL: Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(m) MPL: Trust Fund for the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(n) MSL: Trust Fund for the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(o) MVL: General Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions in Support of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(p) PNL: General Trust Fund for the Protection, Management and Development of the Coastal and Marine Environment and the Resources of the Northwest Pacific Region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(q) ROL: General Trust Fund for the Operational Budget of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(r) RVL: Special Trust Fund for the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(s) SOL: General Trust Fund for Financing Activities on Research and Systematic Observation for the Vienna Convention, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(t) SMU: Trust Fund to Support the Activities of the Secretariat of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(u) VBL: Voluntary Trust Fund to Facilitate the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in the Work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(v) VCL: Trust Fund for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017;

(w) WAL: Trust Fund for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas of West and Central African Region, which is extended up to and including 31 December 2017.

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Items 5, 6, 7 of the provisional agenda*

Policy issues

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of United Nations summits, in particular the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and major intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the United Nations Environment Assembly

Budget and programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 and the Environment Fund and other budgetary matters

Draft resolutions/decisions prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Environment Programme for consideration by the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

Addendum

Policy on stakeholder engagement in the United Nations Environment Programme

* UNEP/EA.1/1.

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Policy on stakeholder engagement in the United Nations Environment Programme

(Working draft as at 19 June 2014)

Note

This policy was prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) pursuant to Governing Council decision 27/2 on the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, adopted by the Governing Council of UNEP at its first universal session, held in Nairobi from 18 to 22 February 2013. That decision called for the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those from developing countries, to be ensured, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions, and for new mechanisms to be explored to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society in the work of the governing body of the United Nations Environment Programme and that of its subsidiary organs, building on best practices in multilateral organizations.*

This policy therefore sets forth the proposed new mechanisms for the promotion of transparency and the effective engagement of civil society with the Assembly and its subsidiary organs, to be submitted to the Assembly at its first session, to be held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014.

* This policy builds on best practices of stakeholder engagement in multilateral organizations. The secretariat of UNEP prepared a *Review of Current Practices of Stakeholder Engagement in Multilateral Organizations*, released in July 2013, as called for by Governing Council decision 27/2 (http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/24105/documents/resources/stakeholder_engagement/Review_of_current_practices_of_stakeholder_engagement_in_multilateral_organisations_30July_2013.pdf).

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1. Background

1. The participation of stakeholders in the work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is rooted in Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and in paragraph 88 (h) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", which calls for "the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions and exploring new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society" within the framework of its decision on strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority.[1]

2. Paragraph 7 of decision 27/2 of the UNEP Governing Council on the implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, adopted by the Governing Council at its first universal session in February 2013, mandates the governing body to ensure the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those from developing countries, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions and to explore new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society in its work and that of its subsidiary organs, inter alia by:

(a) Developing by 2014 a process for stakeholder accreditation and participation that builds on the existing rules of procedure and takes into account inclusive modalities of the Commission of Sustainable Development and other relevant United Nations bodies;

(b) Establishing by 2014 mechanisms and rules for stakeholders' expert input and advice;

(c) Enhancing by 2014 working methods and processes for informed discussions and contributions by all relevant stakeholders towards the intergovernmental decision-making process.

3. While input from stakeholders can provide a valuable contribution to the intergovernmental process, decision-making within UNEP remains the prerogative of member States. This policy is intended to facilitate the effective engagement of stakeholders in the work of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme and that of its subsidiary organs, and in the work of UNEP. The policy provides a set of principles and guidance to UNEP, its staff and stakeholders, and is intended to enhance practices in working and dealing with stakeholders in both routine and special circumstances, and to facilitate the effective engagement of stakeholders in the governance of UNEP. The policy will be accompanied by an implementation handbook, which will be drafted upon approval of the policy.[2]

4. The policy is aligned with all relevant UNEP and United Nations rules and regulations, as well as with the guidelines and initiatives relating to United Nations cooperation with stakeholders.[3] It further builds on General Assembly resolution 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

[1] General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

[2] The policy will be complemented by an implementation handbook, determining the operational and self-organization modalities of the Major Groups and Stakeholders Mechanism, which will be developed by the UNEP secretariat in an open and transparent manner upon approval of the policy.

[3] Several reference documents guide the work of UNEP and the United Nations in working with stakeholders. These include the following: "Guidelines for participation of major groups and stakeholders in policy design at UNEP" (August 2009) (http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/24105/documents/Guidelines/Guidelines-for-CSO-participation-Aug2609.pdf); "UNEP and indigenous peoples: a partnership in caring for the environment" (November 2012) (http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/24105/documents/Guidelines/UNEP_Indigenous_Peoples_Policy_Guidance_endorsed_by_SMT_26_11_12.pdf); "UNEP guidelines for the development of national legislation on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters" (February 2010) (http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/24105/documents/Guidelines/GUIDELINES_TO_ACCESS_TO_ENV_INFO_2.pdf); "Guidelines on cooperation between UNEP and business" (March 2004); "Guidelines on cooperation between the United Nations and the business community" (July 2000); and the UNEP partnership policy and procedures (September 2011).

Purpose of the policy

5. The outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development called in several instances[4] for strengthened public participation, access to information and access to justice in environmental matters, and underlined the importance of partnerships with civil society in achieving the ambitions of its outcome document.

6. UNEP engages with civil society to benefit from its wide knowledge and experience in sustainable development and its involvement in UNEP processes and activities in keeping the environment under review and setting the global environmental agenda; in developing and implementing policies and programmes; and in improving environmental decision-making, as intergovernmental decisions will have broader recognition by and support from the public if the views of stakeholders are taken into account in the agenda-setting, policymaking, decision-making and implementation processes.

7. Civil society stakeholders often provide a way to channel the voices of those most likely to be affected by environmental problems and related policies, calling attention to emerging environmental problems, taking account of the interests of future generations and reaching out to society and the public at large.

2. The policy

A. Guiding principles

8. In accordance with the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and taking into account the principles adopted by major groups and stakeholders at the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum in February 2013, prior to the first universal session of the Governing Council of UNEP, this policy is founded on the following principles:[5]

8.1. Acknowledgement of the intergovernmental nature of UNEP processes, as set out in paragraph 3 above

8.2. Participation in decision-making processes

UNEP will grant participation and access privileges to all accredited stakeholders, consistent with the rules and practices governing its work. UNEP may also use social media and new information technology to foster broader participation.

8.3. Access to information

It is critically important to disseminate and make accessible the information concerning its work or information generated through its programme as widely as possible. Transparency, accountability, and openness can become a catalyst for achieving a greater impact. In particular in the context of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, it is of fundamental importance to make available relevant information to stakeholders and the public in general.

8.4. Transparency and accountability for mutual benefit

Engagement with major groups and stakeholders is based on the premise of mutual trust and benefit, transparency, responsibility and accountability.

8.5. Respect for diversity of views and self-organization

UNEP acknowledges the diversity of views among its stakeholders and, in striving for greater openness and with a view to embracing the full spectrum of civil society actors, including the UNEP national committees, will ensure that those differing voices are heard, including those outside the nine major groups.

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[4] In the outcome document, extensive reference is made to the involvement of civil society and stakeholders (see, for example, paras. 42 to 55 on engaging major groups and other stakeholders). In addition, paragraph 99 reads: "We encourage action at the regional, national, subnational and local levels to promote access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters, as appropriate

[5] *Principles on Stakeholder Participation in UNEP*, adopted at the fourteenth Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum, 17 February 2013 (http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/24105/documents/GMGSF/GMGSF%2014/Stakeholder_participation_principles/Participation_and_Transparency_11_principles_as_adopted.pdf).

8.6. Improvements to current engagement practices

UNEP will promote continuous improvement of its current practices, including opportunities for exploring innovative mechanisms, without regression and with regard to current practice.

B. Definition of stakeholders

9. UNEP applies the nine major groups approach, based on the categories of stakeholders as outlined in Agenda 21 and as noted in Governing Council decision SS.VII/5 of 15 February 2002.

10. UNEP therefore recognizes as stakeholders the nine major groups: farmers (including small-scale farmers, fisherfolk, pastoralists and foresters);[6] women; the scientific and technological community (including research and academia); children and youth; indigenous peoples and their communities; workers and trade unions; business and industry;[7] non-governmental organizations; and local authorities.

New paragraph 11. UNEP recognizes the particular importance of environmental non-governmental organizations within the non-governmental organizations major group. UNEP will promote the participation of other stakeholders, such as local communities; volunteer groups and foundations; migrants and families; older persons; and persons with disabilities through the nine major groups.

C. Accreditation criteria and process

11. Accreditation is the main prerequisite for stakeholder participation in the governance of UNEP. Stakeholders, as referred to in paragraph 9 above, seeking observer status with the Assembly and its subsidiary organs must be accredited according to the process set out below.

12. Accreditation will be granted to stakeholders meeting the [following] (United States of America) criteria [as set out in the Rules of procedure. (Egypt)] (European Union) [contained in the rules of procedure. (United States, Group of 77 and China)]:

1. [Being legally constituted] (European Union) as a not-for-profit entity in a given country;

2. Having been constituted for more than two years;

3. Having a [track record and] proven interest in environmental issues; [or sustainable development;]

4. Having a national or international scope of activities.

13. Accreditation with the United Nations Economic and Social Council [and/or multilateral environmental agreements]

Stakeholders accredited with the United Nations Economic and Social Council [and/or with multilateral environmental agreements having equivalent accreditation criteria] and who provide sufficient proof of such accreditation will receive UNEP accreditation upon request.

14. Accreditation procedures

Stakeholders seeking accreditation shall forward all relevant documents, including the following, to the UNEP secretariat:

(a) Letter requesting accreditation, printed on the official stationery of the organization;

(b) Copy of the constitution, charter, statutes or by-laws of the organization and any amendments to those documents;

(c) List of affiliates;

(d) Proof of interest or experience in the environment; [or sustainable development;]

(e) Detailed account of the scope of the activities of the organization

15. The UNEP secretariat will review the requests and notify applicants of their accreditation. The entire review process will take no longer than three months. The list of accredited organizations will be submitted to the regular session of the Assembly [for review].

16. Accreditation is not a requirement for participation in the implementation of projects, programmes or partnerships. Participation modalities in the implementation of such projects, programmes or partnerships are set out in the UNEP partnership policy.

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[6] Abstracts from General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex, paras. 43, 52 and 53.

[7] "Business and industry" refers to business associations which have a not-for-profit status, not individual private companies.

D. Privileges of accredited stakeholders

17. While retaining the intergovernmental character of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs, accredited stakeholders will have the opportunity to participate in the governance of UNEP and to work at two levels: on agenda-setting processes and on policymaking and decision-making processes.

18. All accredited stakeholders shall enjoy the same privileges, which shall include the following:

(a) Accredited stakeholders may participate in all public meetings of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure. Should participation in a particular meeting be restricted, an advanced notification will be issued. The UNEP secretariat will provide accredited stakeholders with the dates, venue and agenda of the meetings in a timely manner;

(b) UNEP will convene a multi-stakeholder dialogue during the session of the Assembly in accordance with paragraph 5 (e) of Governing Council decision 27/2. The secretariat will provide accredited stakeholders with the dates, venue and agenda of the meetings in a timely manner;

(c) Designated seats will be reserved for major groups and stakeholders in all public meetings of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs. Major groups and stakeholders will designate their representatives according to criteria to be set out in the implementation handbook that will support this policy;

(d) Accredited stakeholders will have access to documents publicly available on the UNEP websites and portals; official documents and reports of UNEP; and documentation related to the work of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs, [including pre-session and in-session documents] (Egypt). The UNEP secretariat will make every effort to provide access to such documents in a timely manner, using electronic and other modern information systems to facilitate delivery. Accredited stakeholders will be granted access to relevant information portals [, according to the UNEP policy on access to information (Egypt)]. The UNEP secretariat will ensure that input received from major groups and stakeholders will be made available on the relevant web portals;

(e) Accredited stakeholders will be able to make written submissions to the Assembly and its subsidiary organs, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure. Such submissions may include contributions and recommendations for agenda items of sessions of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs and recommendations on the subject matter of draft decisions for consideration by member States. Such contributions and recommendations may be submitted to the UNEP secretariat for distribution to member States in time for consideration by the relevant body. The UNEP secretariat will make such submissions available to member States, using electronic means whenever possible;

(f) Accredited stakeholders may be invited to make statements during public meetings of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure. Session presidents or chairs are encouraged to provide opportunities for accredited stakeholders to speak on topics of interest in such public meetings;

(g) Accredited stakeholders may be invited to participate in relevant regional consultations conducted by UNEP.

E. Responsibilities and obligations of accredited stakeholders

19. All accredited stakeholders shall have the same obligations, which shall include the following:

(a) Accredited stakeholders will be expected to act in accordance with the present policy and the relevant rules of procedure for any meeting or session which they attend;

(b) Accredited stakeholders will comply with the registration requirements and seating arrangements for any meeting or session which they attend. Meeting and session organizers will make every effort to have sufficient seating available for stakeholders during open sessions, so as to facilitate their participation. In situations where seating is limited, stakeholders may be asked to designate representatives to occupy the available seats, in accordance with the procedures laid out in the implementation handbook, to be developed by the UNEP secretariat in consultation with major groups and stakeholders;

(c) Accredited stakeholders will provide the secretariat with a biennial communication outlining their activities in the field of the environment during the previous two years. This communication may be in the form of the annual report of the organization or may be a separate document prepared specifically to comply with this reporting requirement.

3. Other matters

A. Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum

20. Prior to each session of the Assembly and the open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, UNEP will facilitate the organization of a Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum that will provide an opportunity for accredited stakeholders to consolidate their views and prepare their input to the Assembly and its subsidiary organs.

21. Member States and representatives of international organizations may participate in the Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum as observers. Major groups and stakeholders are encouraged to submit the main outcomes of such meetings in writing to the Assembly, through the UNEP secretariat, on the first working day of the Forum.

B. Major Groups and Stakeholders Mechanism

22. Accredited stakeholders may form stakeholder bodies or other groups to organize their contributions and facilitate their participation in UNEP processes. While self-organized, such bodies must adhere to the principles of transparency, responsibility and accountability, and respect the diversity of views among stakeholders on all issues.[8]

C. Use of information and communications technology to enhance effective participation

23. The use of modern information and communications technology will enhance the effective participation of stakeholders in a cost-effective manner. In addition to physical presence at meetings, virtual and online participation will also be made possible through webcasting of relevant meetings of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs, UNEP events, information platforms and discussion forums in accordance with the rules of procedure and the related access to information policy.

D. Participation of non-accredited stakeholders

24. While retaining the intergovernmental nature of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs, the president of the Assembly or the chairperson of a subsidiary organ, in consultation with the relevant bureaux, may invite a non-accredited organization or individual, on the basis of their competency, expertise and experience, to meetings of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs for a specific task or purpose, in accordance with the existing rules of procedure.

25. Organizers of other UNEP meetings may invite non-accredited stakeholders, on the basis of their competency, expertise and experience, to participate in panels or thematic discussions on topics of relevance, as appropriate.

E. Consultations with the bureaux of the United Nations Environment Assembly and its subsidiary organs

26. [The bureaux of the Assembly and its subsidiary organs may hold informal consultations with representatives of accredited stakeholders on specific items of mutual interest relating to Assembly processes. (Proposal by the Chair, Norway, United States, Mexico)] (India, Egypt, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Russian Federation)

F. Funding

27. Funding for stakeholder participation will be accounted for in the UNEP programme of work and budget. UNEP will endeavour to mobilize adequate funding including through extrabudgetary resources, to support stakeholder participation, particularly from developing countries.

28. Member States are invited to provide financial resources or take other initiatives to support participation of stakeholders, particularly those from developing countries, in relevant processes.

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[8] As set out in paragraph 3 of this report, the policy will be complemented by an implementation handbook, which will contain the operational and self-organization modalities of the Major Groups and Stakeholders Mechanism. The handbook will be developed by the UNEP secretariat in an open and transparent manner, and comments will be invited from member States, including with regard to budgetary implications.

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United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme
First session
Nairobi, 23–27 June 2014

Draft proceedings of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

Introduction

1. The first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme was held at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) headquarters in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014.

I. Opening of the session

2. The session was opened at 10.20 a.m. on Monday, 23 June 2014, by Mr. Hasan Abdel Gadr Hilal, President of the Assembly.

3. The President announced that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/213, at the current session the Assembly would use its applicable rules of procedure and the applicable rules and practices of the General Assembly pending the adoption of new rules of procedure.

4. In line with rule 62 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations General Assembly, he invited the Assembly to observe one minute of silence for reflection.

5. In his opening remarks, he welcomed all those present to the first session of the Environment Assembly, which he said represented a historic event in the evolution of UNEP. As the outgoing President, he thanked all stakeholders for their support and dedication to achieving tangible results in the field of sustainable development. It was only through collaborative efforts that UNEP would continue to forge "the way forward". He expressed pride in the achievements of UNEP, thanked its core of professionals and acknowledged particularly the work of the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The Environment Assembly was the leading global authority on and advocate for environmental issues. Arid and semi-arid regions were particularly threatened by the destruction of ecosystems, biodiversity and human habitats; such fragility, coupled with other drivers of change, such as population growth, meant environmental issues required more urgent attention. Unified efforts to address those challenges had been carried out by organizations including the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. The issues on the agenda for the current session, which included the post-2015 development goals, needed to be placed on an equal footing with objectives of peace and security. The Environment Assembly was well-placed to provide political guidance and serve as a scientific interface to foster sustainable development. Its wide reach into legislative and administrative arenas rendered it a ground-breaking platform, but the onus was on it to elaborate key actions in the performance of the tasks that lay ahead and to create a greener future that would create the conditions for poverty eradication and social and economic equality. In closing, he

urged the Assembly and its partners to work in a spirit of togetherness and to take bold decisions to shape responses to current challenges.

6. Opening remarks were then delivered by Ms. Sahle-Work Zewde, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi; Mr. Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director; and Ms. Judy Wakhungu, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Water and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kenya.

7. In her statement, the Director-General said that the current session of the Environment Assembly marked a milestone in the implementation of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) commitments and was a crucial step in the upgrading of UNEP. She recalled the historical founding of UNEP in Kenya in 1972, when it had been considered that United Nations bodies should be located with regard for equitable geographic distribution in the name of social advancement of all peoples. The trust placed in Kenya had been well-founded, as demonstrated through the progress made across the continent in respect of sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Furthermore, the United Nations presence in Kenya had continued to grow to encompass bodies such as UNAIDS and the World Health Organization global security section. The United Nations Office at Nairobi had been created in 1996 to provide a secretariat to assist and serve United Nations entities on the African continent and worldwide. It was currently the third largest United Nations Office and a hub for all United Nations operations, and it would continue to support UNEP in advancing its agenda and serve as a voice for the promotion of sustainable development and environmental rule of law. The presence of participants at the current session affirmed the importance that the international community placed on global environmental management. Lastly, she expressed thanks to the Government of Kenya for its support and its efforts to achieve a peaceful world for all.

8. The Executive Director began by expressing his thanks to the leaders of Kenya, who had endowed the Environment Assembly with meaning and made UNEP and Nairobi the environmental capital of the world. The Assembly had received all the support it had requested and all involved had reason to feel proud. Many stakeholders had made the journey to witness history being made with the birth of the Assembly. Sometimes, he added, the importance of an event could only be grasped after it had taken place: participants at the Stockholm Conference in 1972, for example, might not have understood that their efforts would drive four decades of environmental governance and a more diverse membership of the United Nations. In that regard, he commended particularly the engagement of developing countries in UNEP. Drawing on the current World Cup, he emphasized that stakeholders in the Environment Assembly would learn not only to play but also to work together. He thanked the outgoing President of the Environment Assembly, who had offered guidance and trust and who could step down with pride, the UNEP staff members and members of the Bureau who had spent months preparing for the current session and continued to work behind the scenes, and the Committee of Permanent Representatives, which had committed itself to bringing together the international community to achieve their aspirations. UNEP was committed to its presence in Africa and to continuing to represent a United Nations family at its headquarters. He concluded by thanking those who had made the journey, despite security concerns, to attend the historical event, and Kenyans, declaring that "together we move forward".

9. Ms. Wakhungu expressed her pleasure at being part of the first session of the Environment Assembly on behalf of the Government of Kenya. Welcoming the upgrading of the Governing Council to the Environment Assembly, she said that the current session Assembly followed up on the milestones of the Rio+20. The Government of Kenya was committed to providing support for the work of UNEP. Kenya, she said, aimed to transform Kenya into a middle-income country through its economic initiative, Kenya Vision 2030; to that end, policies and programmes on lower carbon emissions and the creation of a climate-resilient pathway were being drawn up and heavy investments had been made in wind and solar power. Environmental problems underscored the relevance of UNEP, which was therefore expected to provide leadership for environmental policies. She urged the adoption of the Rio+20 commitments, and to enhance the advocacy role of UNEP she called for an increased budget for UNEP. Growing challenges required urgent measures, and she called for all to consider all issues carefully and to cooperate closely, saying that only a global community could rise to the increasing environmental challenges facing the world.

II. Organization of work

A. Election of officers

10. At its first plenary meeting of the session, on 23 June, the Environment Assembly adopted a draft resolution prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (UNEP/EA/1/L.1, resolution 4, Implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development) providing that each of the five United Nations regions would be represented by two members in the 10-member Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

11. The Assembly then elected the following officers by acclamation:

President: Ms. Oyun Sanjaasuren (Mongolia)

Vice-Presidents:

Ms. Judy Wakhungu (Kenya)
Mr. Mahmoud Samy (Egypt)
Mr. Sargon Lazar Slewa (Iraq)
Mr. Attila Korodi (Romania)
Ms. Khatuna Gogaladze (Georgia)
Ms. Idunn Eidheim (Norway)
Mr. Chris Vanden Bilcke (Belgium)
Mr. Mariano Castro (Peru)

Rapporteur: Mr. James Fletcher (Saint Lucia)

12. In her acceptance remarks, Ms. Sanjaasuren said that she was honored to have been entrusted with the task of chairing the first session of the Environment Assembly, which she said was a historic event that would not only define the future of UNEP but also support an institutional framework and programmatic platform for sustainable development that could enable the transformative changes required to address complex environmental challenges through collaboration and the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.

13. Outlining a number of items on the agenda for the session, she highlighted the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals, including sustainable consumption and production and illegal trade in wildlife as key priorities. On the former item, she said that it was important to recognize that every country started with a different baseline of challenges, needs, priorities and response capabilities in the context of universal sustainable development goals and to find the means to fully implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, as sustainable consumption and production were a prerequisite of sustainable development. It was also essential to find the means to help countries to achieve a green and socially inclusive economy. Regarding illegal trade in wildlife, she said that tackling it would require, among other things, increased international cooperation and awareness raising. In closing, she urged representatives to engage positively throughout the session in order to reach their common objectives and meet the high expectations of the international community for the first session of the Assembly.

B. Adoption of the agenda

14. The Environment Assembly adopted the following agenda for the session, on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/EA.1/1 and UNEP/EA.1/1/Add.1):

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organization of work:
   (a) Election of officers;
   (b) Adoption of the agenda;
   (c) Organization of work.
3. Credentials of representatives.
4. Amendments to the rules of procedure.
5. Policy issues:
   (a) State of the environment;
   (b) Emerging policy issues;
   (c) International environmental governance;

(d) Coordination and cooperation within the United Nations system on environmental matters;

(e) Coordination and cooperation with major groups;

(f) Environment and development.

6. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of United Nations summits, in particular the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and major intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the United Nations Environment Assembly.

7. Budget and programme of work for the biennium 2016–2017 and the Environment Fund and other budgetary matters.

8. High-level segment.

9. Provisional agenda, date and venue of future sessions of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

10. Other matters.

12. Adoption of the report.

13. Closure of the session.

C. Organization of work

15. At its first plenary meeting, on Monday, 23 June 2014, the Environment Assembly agreed to meet in plenary to decide on organizational matters, to adopt resolutions and to hold a high-level segment focusing on two themes that had global resonance: first, "the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, including sustainable consumption and production"; and second, "illegal trade in wildlife". It also agreed to take up agenda items 3, 10, 11 and 12 at its afternoon plenary meeting on the final day of the session.

16. Also at its first plenary meeting, the Assembly agreed, pursuant to rule 60 of the rules of procedure, to establish a committee of the whole and a working party, which would be open-ended and would meet concurrently. The Committee of the Whole would consider agenda items 5, 6, 7 and 9, and would be chaired by Mr. Fernando Lugris (Uruguay). The working party would be chaired by Ms. Julia Pataki (Romania) and would discuss amendments to the rules of procedure and the stakeholder engagement policy. In view of the heavy workload and time constraints for the session, the working party would begin its work as soon as the Committee had completed its general discussion of relevant subjects and would submit a report on its deliberations for consideration and adoption by the Environment Assembly in plenary by the final day of the session. It was further decided that an open-ended friends of the President group would be formed to assist the President in preparing the outcome of the session. In accordance with rule 18, the chairs of the Committee of the Whole, the working group and the friends of the President group would be invited to brief the Bureau on a regular basis.

17. The Assembly further agreed at its first plenary meeting, under rule 37, to establish a maximum time limit of five minutes for all statements by representatives of Member States and three minutes for those of intergovernmental organizations and nongovernmental organizations.

D. Policy statement by the Executive Director

18. In his policy statement, the Executive Director traced the origins of international cooperation to the founding of the United Nations, which he said embodied the determination of humanity to create a peaceful future through collaboration and a common vision. Societies had on many occasions failed to live up to the aspirations of the United Nations, but those aspirations nevertheless remained valid. Sustainability and the environment, which had not been in the minds of the drafters of the United Nations Charter, were now at the forefront of the international agenda, thanks to landmark conferences that had begun to ask hard questions about how human beings could live together on Earth. The last such conference, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), had articulated a vision of the Environment Assembly as a platform for addressing such questions, which had become ever-more relevant as human beings had become a defining factor in the future of the planet.

19. The environmental agenda of the twenty-first century focused not just on protecting the environment, but also on the huge social inequalities and unsustainable development patterns that were

at the root of the environmental crisis and, as evidenced by the far-reaching decisions adopted at Rio+20 and later, addressing the environmental dimension of sustainable development was not just a preoccupation of the rich, but a vital necessity for all.

20. Recognizing that the environmental dimension of sustainable development was not the sole purview of the environmental community, the Environment Assembly was a forum where all those who had an interest in an issue and a role in addressing it should participate. Thanking the wide range of participants attending the first session of the Assembly, he said that the session took place at a critical moment for the United Nations, as the negotiations of the post-2015 development agenda would test its capacity to transform itself and become more relevant to both citizens and Member States. Participants at the first session had a unique opportunity to define the contribution of the environmental dimension of sustainable development to the post-2015 agenda and show that it was about using the best science and policy not only to protect the environment but also to provide food, energy, health and livelihoods to billions of people. They would also be able to address illegal trade in wildlife, which threatened both species and the livelihoods, economies and security of many countries and communities; to engage with the judiciary and other legal practitioners; and to discuss how to mobilize the substantial resources needed to finance the green economy.

21. With regard to UNEP, its substantive work had continued even in the midst of governance reforms undertaken in response to the outcomes of Rio+20. Much of that work was summarized in the UNEP Annual report 2013 and the Programme performance report for 2012–2013, as well as in the Evaluation synthesis report 2012–2013, which provided an honest assessment of UNEP performance and revealed both progress and shortcomings that UNEP was working to remedy. UNEP had invested considerable resources in delivering more detailed and results-oriented planning, performance and reports in response to the request by the Member States that United Nations organizations become more results-oriented, and it was incumbent upon the Environment Assembly, as the governing body of UNEP, to embrace this approach. UNEP was also working to improve its efficiency and had achieved extraordinary productivity gains in the secretariat, as well as gender parity in all posts except at the D-1 and P-5 levels. These steps demonstrated that UNEP was in no way complacent about its superior resources, mandate and status.

E. General statements by regional groups

22. Following the Executive Director's policy statement, representatives of regional groups of member States made general statements on the items on the agenda for the current session.

23. The representative of Thailand, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the discussions on the environmental dimension of sustainable development by the Environment Assembly would enable ministers to adopt more informed positions on principles such as that of common but differentiated responsibilities in the negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda, and that the outcomes would set a course for UNEP in the crucial work of promoting sustainable consumption and production and advancing an integrated approach to financing the sound management of chemicals and waste. In regard to the latter, the special programme that the Assembly would establish to support implementation of the Basel Convention on the Control of the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, was of particular importance. Expressing support for the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017, he called on all member States to provide the voluntary contributions needed to assist UNEP in achieving its goals, suggesting the use of an indicative table to guide Governments on their share of the burden, and suggested that the programme of work and budget should take into account earmarked contributions to ensure that related activities remained in line with the organization's overall strategic objectives.

24. The representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of African States, welcomed current efforts to strengthen regional and subregional offices and called for them to be adequately staffed and underpinned by a regional strategic delivery framework to ensure greater coherence and impact; the role of UNEP role in mobilizing human and financial resources was crucial and the United Nations Environment Assembly must ensure that such priorities were fully reflected in the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017. Regarding the first of the two themes of the high-level segment, he said that the post-2015 development agenda must be member-State-driven in order to ensure its collective ownership, and the sustainable development goals must be accompanied by stable, predictable and accessible financing mechanisms, together with sound monitoring and reporting systems, to ensure that every country met its commitments. As for the second theme, he stressed the

importance of developing a common global strategy to tackle the crime of illegal trade in wildlife by eliminating demand and strengthening laws and policies with deterrents, penalties and a zero tolerance approach. On the matter of the stakeholder engagement policy, he reaffirmed the need to respect the intergovernmental nature of UNEP as a subsidiary organ of the United Nations General Assembly, and he called for an accreditation mechanism that allowed for the participation of nongovernmental organizations from developing countries in the work of the Environment Assembly, with the necessary financial support. Finally, he reiterated the importance that his region attached to the consolidation of UNEP headquarters functions in Nairobi. He concluded with a message of support on behalf of the African Union.

25. The representative of Colombia, speaking on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean region, said that it was important to continue efforts to strengthen UNEP regional and subregional offices for the effective implementation of the decisions adopted at key forums at the regional and national levels; those efforts called for adequate resource allocation in the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017. Turning to the other matters on the agenda for the current session, she said that it was necessary to ensure that the post-2015 development agenda was socially and economically inclusive, based on the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities; that countries had the means to implement international agreements on the environment and sustainable development, including new, stable and predictable financial resources, capacity-building and technology transfers; that institutional and technical capacities were strengthened for the sound management of chemicals and waste; and that developed countries agreed to lead efforts to develop models of sustainable consumption and production to which developing countries must, in turn, agree to adhere. A particular focus should be placed, among other things, on the vulnerabilities of small island developing States and their inclusion in the debates; on inputs for a draft global agreement on climate change to be presented at the twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; and on the right of access to information, participation and environmental rule of law, which were crucial to the promotion of sustainable development.

26. The countries of her region proposed that Mr. Fernando Lugris (Uruguay) be named Chair of the Committee of the Whole.

27. The representative of Greece, speaking on behalf of the European Union and its member States, said that despite efforts made since the open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives much remained to be done to finalize the draft resolutions submitted for adoption by the United Nations Environment Assembly. Areas in need of particular attention included governance issues, such as the rules of procedure, the stakeholder engagement policy and the role of UNEP within the wider United Nations system, and environmental policy matters such as the science-policy interface, chemicals and waste, marine litter, ecosystem-based adaptation and air quality. Regarding the two themes of the high-level segment, he stressed the importance of UNEP highlighting the role of the environment in sustainable development and as an enabler of poverty eradication and inclusive growth and prosperity. UNEP, as the leading United Nations authority on the environment, must prepare for its lead role in implementation of the post-2015 development agenda.

28. The representative of Japan said that it was important to deliver a powerful message from the high-level segment that all countries needed to take action to achieve the sustainable development goals. Welcoming the preparation of draft resolutions on, among other subjects, chemicals and waste and air pollution, he urged participants to work together to ensure appropriate global management and emissions reductions under the Minamata Convention on Mercury. He also expressed regret at the recent demise of Mr. Matthew Gubb, Director of the UNEP International Environmental Technology Centre and Coordinator of the early stages of the negotiations on the Minamata Convention.

29. The representative of Algeria, speaking on behalf of the joint coordination committee of the Non-Aligned Movement, drew attention to a range of declarations adopted at various events that covered many of the items on the agenda of the current session. The key test of the Assembly's ability to move away from a position of "business as usual" would, he said, be the approval of a budget that responded to the priorities of developing countries, especially in Africa, and the confirmation of assurances that UNEP headquarters would remain in Nairobi.

30. Following those group statements, one representative, saying that his country had long participated in international efforts to protect the environment and was increasing its contributions, financial and otherwise, to such efforts, said that degradation of the environment could only be averted through the combined efforts of every country and individual. The environmental dimension, he said, must be adequately reflected and prioritized in the sustainable development goals and UNEP must play a greater role in coordinating global efforts with member States, the secretariats of multilateral

environmental agreements and civil society, especially in the field of chemicals and waste management.

31. The representative of the major groups and stakeholders expressed satisfaction the fact that the agenda of the first session of the Environment Assembly addressed the global challenges related to environmental rule of law, the sustainable development goals and illegal trade in wildlife and timber, saying that it was important to ensure a rights-based approach to the Assembly's work and pay special attention to the needs of vulnerable indigenous peoples and communities. Experience, he said, had shown that UNEP could only deliver on its mandate by working in partnership with civil society, which called for the promotion of a robust and inclusive stakeholder engagement policy and the adoption of appropriate rules of procedure. He expressed profound concern at what he said was a risk of regression from good practices reflected, inter alia, in the United Nations General Assembly resolution establishing the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, and over what he described as serious inadequacies in the UNEP access-to-information policy with regard to the grounds for refusal, the appeals panel's lack of independence and the lack of accountability in decision-making.

F. Report by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

32. Mr. Sunu M. Soemarno (Indonesia), Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, reported on the Committee's preparations for the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly. Particular attention had been paid to the structure and organization of the session; to amendments to the Assembly's rules of procedure; to the enhancement of stakeholder engagement in the work of UNEP; and to the 12 draft resolutions contained in document UNEP/EA.1/L.1. In regard to the latter, the Committee recommended that the resolutions be clustered and considered in a strategic manner, and it had accordingly decided to present them in an omnibus format. Furthermore, it had engaged in an informal process to discuss the scope, format and content of a potential outcome document. A "zero draft" of such a document had been circulated to all delegations, regional groups and economic and political integration organizations. A summary of the informal process on the zero draft had been transmitted to the Bureau.

III. Credentials of representatives

33. [*To be completed*]

IV. Amendments to the rules of procedure

34. [*To be completed*]

V. Policy issues

35. [*To be completed*]

A. State of the environment

36. [*To be completed*]

B. Emerging policy issues

37. [*To be completed*]

C. International environmental governance

38. [*To be completed*]

D. Coordination and cooperation within the United Nations system on environmental matters

39. [*To be completed*]

E. Coordination and cooperation with major groups

40. [*To be completed*]

F. Environment and development

41. [*To be completed*]

VI. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of United Nations summits, in particular the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and major intergovernmental meetings of relevance to the United Nations Environment Assembly

42. [*To be completed*]

VII. Budget and programme of work for the biennium 2016–2017 and the Environment Fund and other budgetary matters

43. [*To be completed*]

VIII. High-level segment

44. [*To be completed*]

IX. Provisional agenda, date and venue of future sessions of the United Nations Environment Assembly

45. [*To be completed*]

X. Other matters

46. [*To be completed*]

XI. Adoption of the report

47. [*To be completed*]

XII. Closure of the session

48. [*To be completed*]

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Implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Draft decision submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 6 of Governing Council decision 27/2,

Decides that each of the five regions shall be represented by 2 members in the 10-member Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

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Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling its decision SS.IV/1 of 18 June 1994 on the adoption of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility (hereinafter "the Instrument"),

Also recalling the approval in May 2014 by the Fifth Assembly of the Global Environment Facility of a number of amendments to the Instrument relating to the Facility being available to operate as one of the financial mechanisms of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, to replace the "ozone layer depletion" and "persistent organic pollutants" focal areas with a "chemicals and waste" focal area, to update the eligibility criteria for accessing Facility funding and to reflect the change of the name from GEF Evaluation Office to GEF Independent Evaluation Office,

Having taken note of the report of the Executive Director,[1]

1. *Decides* to adopt the following amendments to the Instrument, pursuant to the decision of the Global Environment Facility Assembly in May 2014 (agenda item 5):

(a) The amendment to paragraph 6 of the Instrument by which the Global Environment Facility shall serve as one of the financial mechanisms of the Minamata Convention on Mercury;

(b) The amendment to bullets (a), (b), (c) and (d) of paragraph 6 of the Instrument in order to clarify the responsibilities of the Global Environment Facility under the conventions it serves in an orderly fashion;

(c) The amendment to paragraph 2 of the Instrument inviting the Global Environment Facility to revise its focal area structure and strategy to address the chemicals and waste agenda and replacing the "ozone layer depletion" and "persistent organic pollutants" focal areas with the "chemicals and waste" focal area;

(d) The amendment to paragraph 9 of the Instrument, by which the eligibility criteria for access to Global Environment Facility funding is updated to accommodate updates to eligibility criteria in the World Bank on financing and in the United Nations Development Programme on technical assistance;

(e) The amendment to paragraph 11 of the Instrument, by which the Global Environment Facility shall have an assembly, a council and a secretariat, including an independent evaluation office;

[1] UNEP/EA.1/9.

(f) The amendments to paragraph 21 of the Instrument, by which the functions of the independent evaluation office are further clarified;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to consider ways of enhancing the capacity of the United Nations Environment Programme, as the principal United Nations body in the field of the environment, to strengthen its role as Implementing Agency of the Global Environment Facility;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Director to transmit the present decision to the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility.

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Strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Noting the World Health Organization estimate, from the report adopted by its Executive Board in May 2014, that air pollution contributes to 7 million premature deaths each year globally, a burden of disease that may now exceed the burdens of malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS combined,

Recalling the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme as outlined in Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 2,

Recognizing that poor air quality is a growing challenge in the context of sustainable development, in particular related to health in cities and urban areas, and that efforts across sectors to improve air quality are needed,

Recognizing also that air pollution is an impediment to national sustainable development, impacting, among many other issues, the economy, worker productivity, health-care costs and tourism,

Aware that promoting air quality is a priority to protect public health and provide co-benefits for the climate, ecosystem services, biodiversity and food security,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, by which the Assembly endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", in which all States Members of the United Nations committed to promoting sustainable development policies that support healthy air quality in the context of sustainable cities and human settlements and recognized that reducing air pollution leads to positive effects on health,

Aware that the nineteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean adopted a decision for a Regional Plan of Action on Atmospheric Pollution,

Recalling with appreciation existing efforts to support actions at all levels to improve air quality, such as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and its eight protocols, the World Health Organization guidelines on ambient air quality, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition and the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, and the important contributions that initiatives such as UNEP Live, global environmental monitoring systems, the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia and the Malé Declaration, have made to sharing information and best practices,

1. *Encourages* Governments to take action across sectors to improve air quality to protect human health and the environment, reduce negative impacts, including on the economy, and promote sustainable development;

2. *Also encourages* Governments to formulate action plans and establish and implement nationally determined ambient air quality standards, taking into account the World Health Organization Air Quality Guidelines and other relevant information and to establish emissions standards for their significant sources of air pollution;

3. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental, regional and international organizations to make air quality data more easily accessible and understandable to the public;

4. *Encourages* Governments to share with the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme and member States the results and experiences of their efforts taken pursuant to paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the present resolution prior to the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, to be held in 2016;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director:

(a) To undertake strengthened capacity-building activities on air quality, such as workshops and policy development assistance, to support Governments in their efforts to implement paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of the present resolution;

(b) To raise awareness of the public health and environmental risks of air pollution and the multiple benefits of improved air quality, including through public outreach campaigns as well as Global Environment Outlook assessment processes, in particular in the context of the discussions on sustainable development goals as part of the post-2015 development agenda;

(c) To explore opportunities for strengthened cooperation on air pollution within the United Nations system, for example the Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, the World Health Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, including establishing linkages between UNEP Live, the World Meteorological Organization Information System, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, other relevant information management systems, programmes and pertinent regional efforts and initiatives;

(d) To facilitate the operation of existing United Nations Environment Programme-supported intergovernmental programmes on the assessment of air quality issues;

(e) To undertake global, regional and subregional, as appropriate, assessments by 2016, if possible, focused on identifying gaps in capacity to address air quality issues, including monitoring and control, opportunities for cooperation, and air pollution mitigation opportunities, building upon existing global, regional and subregional cooperative efforts on air pollution, such as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and its eight protocols, and information provided by States members of the United Nations Environment Programme;

6. *Encourages* Governments that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the relevant global agreements addressing air pollution;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit and present a report on the information provided by Governments pursuant to paragraph 4 of the present resolution and to provide an update on progress made in implementing the present resolution to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session.

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Science-policy interface

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 66/288 of July 2012 on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), entitled "The future we want", specifically its paragraph 88, and recalling also Governing Council decision 27/2, paragraph 8,

Mindful of the functions and responsibilities of the United Nations Environment Programme as outlined in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, including to keep under review the world environmental situation, and recalling Governing Council decision 27/11 of 22 February 2013 on the state of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to meeting substantive environmental challenges,

Acknowledging General Assembly resolution 66/288 of July 2012 on the Rio+20 outcome document, entitled "The future we want", in particular its paragraph 90, calling for strengthened assessment activities and improved access to data and information, and noting the need to integrate the economic, environmental and social dimensions of sustainable development and to disseminate and share evidence-based environmental information on critical and emerging economic, environmental and social issues,

Recalling Governing Council decision 27/11, section III, paragraph 3,

Recognizing the potential benefits of a scientifically sound and evidence-based detailed assessment of the state of the environment for awareness-raising, informed policy formulation and decision-making in the context of sustainable development,

Welcoming the progress made during the design and development of UNEP Live as a tool to significantly enhance the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the future approach to keeping the world environment situation under review, including capacity-building and technology support for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve their data collection and assessment efforts and ensure that data collected and information generated are made available to policymakers and the public,

Recalling paragraph 88 (f) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and paragraph 20 of Governing Council decision 27/2 calling for the enhancement of the operationalization of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,

Recognizing that there are gaps in our knowledge of the state of the environment resulting from a lack of current data and information generation and dissemination,

Noting that there is an urgent need for Governments to take action to bridge those gaps through the building of capacities, the strengthening of existing mechanisms, including those of the multilateral environmental agreements, for monitoring the state of the environment and producing policy relevant environmental assessments, which should be based on the use of established comparable methods for data collection and analysis, paying particular attention to the needs and circumstances of developing countries.

Welcoming the continued support provided by the United Nations Environment Programme to the work of the intergovernmental scientific panels, bodies and processes,

Expressing appreciation for the work of the International Resource Panel, which contributes to the strengthening of the science-policy interface and knowledge base in key areas of resource use and knowledge management,

Welcoming the release of the third Africa Environment Outlook (AEO-3) report, which reveals important linkages between health and the environment in Africa,

Welcoming also the release of the Arab Region Atlas of Our Changing Environment, which examines the environmental changes that have taken place across the Arab region,

Science-policy interface

1. *Welcomes* the briefing of the Executive Director on science-policy interface to the high-level segment of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and requests the Executive Director to continue to provide information from existing and ongoing assessments as well as on progress made towards previously agreed global environmental goals to guide future policy debates at the Assembly;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to further explore ways of communicating key scientific findings of the assessment work of the United Nations Environment Programme in all United Nations languages towards citizens, policymakers, the media and the research community in order to support informed decision-making at all levels;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Director to promote a strong science-policy interface by expanding partnerships with centres of excellence and research programmes, promoting integrated and peer-reviewed environmental assessments and policy analysis and working closely with member States, business and experts to establish up-to-date quality-assured data flows;

4. *Further requests* the Executive Director to foster collaboration with s multilateral environmental agreement secretariats, relevant United Nations agencies and programmes and scientific panels for joint efforts to strengthen the science-policy interface and provide tools for integrated approaches and informed decision-making;

5. *Reiterates* the request to the Executive Director to present a gap analysis report on environmental data, information and assessments as well as recommendations on policy instruments for a strengthened science-policy interface with recommendations to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session;

Strengthening the environmental dimension of sustainable development

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to provide expert input on the environmental dimension in relation to sustainable development goals in accordance with the Rio+20 outcome;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Director to work closely with relevant United Nations bodies, including the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, on the production of the Global Sustainable Development Report;

Assessments

8. *Requests* the Executive Director, within the programme of work and budget, to undertake the preparation of the sixth Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6), supported by UNEP Live, with the scope, objectives and procedures of GEO-6 to be defined by a transparent global intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder consultation informed by document UNEP/EA.1/INF/14, resulting in a scientifically credible, peer-reviewed GEO-6, and its accompanying summary for policymakers, to be endorsed by the United Nations Environment Assembly no later than 2018;

9. *Also requests* the Executive Director to consult with all United Nations Environment Programme regions regarding their priorities to be taken up in the global assessment;

10. *Further requests* the Executive Director, within the existing programme of work, to contribute to the dissemination and outreach of the findings of relevant scientific panels, bodies and processes under the auspices of intergovernmental organizations in order to amplify diffusion among policymakers and the public to the maximum possible extent;

11. *Reiterates* the request to the Executive Director to strengthen the policy relevance of GEO reports by measuring the progress towards the achievement of the previously agreed global environmental goals and targets and to inform relevant global processes and meetings where progress towards these agreed goals and targets will be discussed;

UNEP Live

12. *Encourages* Governments, major groups and stakeholders, United Nation specialized agencies and programmes the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements and international and regional scientific bodies to engage in the future development of UNEP Live and share appropriate, credible and quality-assured data and information resources to support the environmental dimension of sustainable development assessment processes, which shall be accessible via the UNEP Live platform;

13. *Requests* the Executive Director to prepare, within the programme of work and budget and in consultation with Governments, United Nations agencies and programmes, the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements and international and regional scientific bodies, a long-term plan for the development and use of UNEP Live, with particular reference to its contribution to future GEO reports, future assessment modalities, stakeholder engagement, institutional networking and partnership activities, content development, technology support and capacity-building, particularly for developing countries and taking into account the existing scientific work and processes of UNEP and to present this plan to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session;

.....

14. *Requests* the Executive Director to undertake, at the request of member States, capacity-building and technology support for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to improve their data collection management and assessment including strengthening the indigenous and local knowledge systems and practices, as appropriate, for the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Invites* Governments and others in a position to do so to provide financial support for the implementation of the present resolution, particularly in the area of technology support, data infrastructure and capacity-building so that developing countries can engage effectively and take advantage of the benefits of platforms such as UNEP Live;

16. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Global Environmental Monitoring System/Water (GEMS/Water)

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling paragraphs 120 and 124 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", which calls for taking measures to significantly reduce water pollution and increase water quality, and the commitment to the progressive realization of access to safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation,

Recognizing that good water quality and adequate water quantity are keys to sustainable development and human well-being as well as an indispensable prerequisite for protecting biodiversity and the integrity of the planet's ecosystems,

Recalling Governing Council decisions 23/2, 24/16, 26/14 and 27/11 VI, which set the stage for GEMS/Water, defined its mandate and invited member States to participate in the efforts to provide global water data and information,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Canada for having hosted and supported GEMS/Water in the past, acknowledges the achievements made, and welcomes the commitments by the Governments of Germany, Ireland and Brazil to support GEMS/Water in the future;

2. *Considers* the United Nations Environment Programme and GEMS/Water well suited to supporting the achievement of water quality and water-pollution-related targets which may be part of the post-2015 development agenda that is still to be decided upon, through providing data and information for relevant assessments;

3. *Emphasizes* that the World Water Quality Assessment Report, the water-related sustainable development goals and other assessments on the state of freshwater resources at different geographic scales will require timely, relevant and reliable data and information from the revitalized GEMS Water programme in order to inform policymaking at the relevant levels;

4. *Underlines* the need to further improve the global coverage and consistency of water quality data as well as to expand the GEMS/Water network, and invites member States, relevant United Nations agencies, the international scientific community and other interested partners and stakeholders to cooperate with the GEMS/Water Global Coordination Unit, the GEMS/Water Capacity Development Centre and GEMS/Water Database (GEMStat) in building a reliable global freshwater monitoring and information system and to support relevant initiatives, including through financial and in-kind contributions to the GEMS/Water network, according to the country's national circumstances and priorities;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to collaborate closely with member States with the aim of identifying additional key elements of GEMS/Water, such as regional hubs, capacity development programmes, technology support and new services, as appropriate, and to ensure the necessary resources as reflected in the programme of work and budget for enabling the GEMS/Water global coordination unit in the United Nations Environment Programme to effectively and efficiently operate as the interface between national focal points, GEMStat, the GEMS/Water Capacity Development Centre, GEMS/Water regional hubs and relevant global partners;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to initiate discussions with member States, United Nations agencies and other relevant institutions and organizations that have done significant work developing water quality exchange standards on a common data policy, taking into account relevant national legislation that allows the exchange of water quality related data and metadata for the purpose of building a consistent data base in GEMStat, supporting UNEP Live and informing sustainable development policies;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to draft a revised GEMS/Water programme for adoption at the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, including a budget, while linking it clearly to the next biennial programme of work of the United Nations Environment Programme;

8. *Invites* GEMS Water partners to support capacity development in providing standardization efforts for water quality related data collection, analysis, exchange and management, such as the OGC Best Practice WaterML-WQ (OGC 14-003) and USEPA, USGS WQX standards for the presentation and exchange of Water Quality data and metadata, especially in developing countries, at their request, and to coordinate those efforts with relevant ongoing initiatives;

9. *Encourages* member States to approach GEMS/Water with the aim of supporting and customizing capacity development efforts, improving freshwater monitoring systems, exchanging technology that can support national, regional and global monitoring networks and assessments and to seek assistance for joining the GEMS/Water Network;

10. *Reaffirms* the mandate of GEMS/Water.

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Marine plastic debris and microplastics

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling the concern reflected in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", that the health of oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris, especially plastic, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals and nitrogen-based compounds, from numerous marine and land-based sources, and the commitment to take action to significantly reduce the incidence and impacts of such pollution on marine ecosystems,

Noting the international action being taken to promote sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and waste in ways that lead to prevention and minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment,

Recalling the Manila Declaration of the Third Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, which highlighted the relevance of the Honolulu Strategy and the Honolulu Commitment and recommended the establishment of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter,

Taking note of the decisions adopted by the eleventh Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on addressing impacts of marine debris on marine and coastal biodiversity,

Recalling that the General Assembly declared 2014 the International Year of Small Island Developing States and that such States have identified waste management among their priorities for action,

1. *Notes with concern* the serious impact which marine litter, including plastics stemming from land and sea-based sources, can have on the marine environment, marine ecosystem services, marine natural resources, fisheries, tourism and the economy, as well as potential risks to human health;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the precautionary approach according to which lack of full scientific certainty should not be used for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation, where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage;

3. *Recognizes* the significant risks arising from the inadequate management and disposal of plastic and the need to take action;

4. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, industry and other relevant actors to cooperate with the Global Partnership on Marine Litter in its implementation of the Honolulu Strategy and to facilitate information exchange through the online marine litter network;

5. *Recognizes* that plastics, including microplastics, in the marine environment are a rapidly increasing problem due to their large and still increasing use combined with the inadequate management and disposal of plastic waste, and because plastic debris in the marine environment is steadily fragmenting into secondary microplastics;

6. *Also recognizes* the need for more knowledge and research on the source and fate of microplastics and their impact on biodiversity, marine ecosystems and human health, noting recent knowledge that such particles can be ingested by biota, and could be transferred to higher levels in the marine food chain, causing adverse effects;

7. *Notes* that microplastics may also contribute to the transfer in the marine ecosystems of persistent organic pollutants, other persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic substances and other contaminants which are in or adhere to the particles;

8. *Recognizes* that microplastics in the marine environment originate from a wide range of sources, including the breakdown of plastic debris in the oceans, industrial emissions and sewage and run-off from the use of products containing microplastics;

9. *Emphasizes* that further urgent action is needed to address the challenges posed by marine plastic debris and microplastics, by addressing such materials at source, by reducing pollution through improved waste management practices and by cleaning up existing debris and litter;

10. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter launched in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012 and the convening of the first Partnership Forum in 2013;

11. *Welcomes* the adoption by the contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention in December 2013 of the world's first Regional Action Plan on marine litter management and the adoption of the OSPAR action plan on marine litter – awaiting adoption from the meeting, and encourages Governments to collaborate through relevant regional seas conventions and river commissions with a view to adopting such action plans in their regions;

12. *Requests* the Executive Director to support countries, upon request, in the development and implementation of national or regional action plans to reduce marine litter;

13. *Welcomes* the initiative by the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection to produce an assessment report on microplastics, which is scheduled to be launched in November 2014;

14. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the International Whaling Commission on assessing the impacts of marine debris on cetaceans and the tenth Conference of Parties to the United Nations Environment Programme Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals endorsement of Resolution 10.4 addressing the impacts of marine debris on migratory species;

15. *Requests* the Executive Director, in consultation with other relevant institutions and stakeholders, to undertake a study on marine plastic debris and marine microplastics, building on existing work and taking into account the most up-to-date studies and data, focusing on:

(a) Identification of the key sources for marine plastic debris and microplastics;

(b) Identification of possible measures and best available techniques and environmental practices to prevent the accumulation and minimize the level of microplastics in the marine environment;

(c) Recommendations for the most urgent actions;

(d) Specification of areas especially in need of more research, including key impacts on the environment and on human health;

(e) Any other relevant priority areas identified in the GESAMP assessment of the Joint Group of Experts described in paragraph 12.

16. *Invites* the secretariats of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and relevant organizations involved in pollution control and chemicals and waste management, and the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on

Migratory Species and the regional seas conventions and action plans to contribute to the study described in paragraph 14;

17. *Encourages* Governments and the private sector to promote the more resource-efficient use and sound management of plastics and microplastics;

18. *Also encourages* Governments to take comprehensive action to address the marine plastic debris and microplastic issue through, where appropriate, legislation, enforcement of international agreements, provision of adequate reception facilities for ship-generated wastes, improvement of waste management practices and support for beach clean-up activities, as well as information, education and public awareness programmes;

19. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, the scientific community, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders to share relevant information with the Executive Director pertinent to the study described in paragraph 14;

20. *Invites* those in a position to do so to provide financial and other support to conduct the study identified in paragraph 10;

21. *Requests* the Executive Director to present the study on microplastics for the consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its second session.

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Nairobi, 23–27 June 2014

Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 29 of Governing Council decision 27/13 of 22 February 2013, in which the Executive Director was requested to provide a full report on the relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and those multilateral environmental agreements for which the Programme provides the secretariat by 30 June 2013, and to provide the final report to the governing body of the Programme at its next session,

Takes note of the report of the Executive Director of 30 May 2014 on the relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements,[1]

Welcomes the step taken by the Executive Director to establish a task team, which has commenced consultations on the effectiveness of administrative arrangements and programmatic cooperation between the United Nations Environment Programme and a number of multilateral agreements,

Requests the Executive Director to continue its efforts in these matters and to ensure that a final report is submitted to the next session of the open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives, with a view to putting the issue before the United Nations Environment Assembly,

Also requests the Executive Director to submit information on the progress made by the task team and its two working groups to the relevant conferences and meetings of parties to be held in the period before the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme.

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[1] UNEP/EA.1/INF/8.

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United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme
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Revised programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014-2015

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the approved medium-term strategy for 2014–2017 and the approved programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014–2015,

Reaffirming Governing Council decision 27/13 on the proposed medium-term strategy for the period 2014-2017 and the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014-2015,[1] by which the Council approved appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of 245 million United States dollars as indicated in the following table:

Environment Fund programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014–2015

(Thousands of United States dollars)

A. Executive direction and management	**7 794**
B. Programme of work	**209 394**
1. Climate change	39 510
2. Disasters and conflicts	17 886
3. Ecosystem management	36 831
4. Environmental governance	21 895
5. Chemicals and waste	31 175
6. Resource efficiency	45 329
7. Environment under review	16 768
C. Fund programme reserve	**12 500**
D. Programme support	**15 312**
Total	**245 000**

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/68/25), annex.

Noting the approval by the General Assembly of 34.9 million United States dollars from the regular budget of the United Nations to the United Nations Environment Programme,

1. *Approves* the revised programme of work and budget for the biennium 2014–2015,[2] which takes into account the implications of the level of resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to the United Nations Environment Programme;

2. *Notes* that the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Director, will carry out, and make publically available, a review of the functions of United Nations Environment Programme staffing to redefine and recategorize its posts into three categories, management and administration, programme support and operational programme posts, in order to determine by April 2015 which posts should be financed from the regular budget of the United Nations and at the same time to consider the scope for efficiency savings in the numbers of staff posts.

[2] UNEA/EA.1/7/Add.1.

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Proposed programme of work and budget for 2016–2017

Draft resolution submitted by Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Having considered the approved medium-term strategy for 2014–2017[1] and the proposed programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017,

Noting General Assembly resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012 and 67/213 of 21 December 2012, by which the Assembly strengthened the United Nations Environment Programme,

Noting the consideration given at the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to, inter alia, chemicals and waste, ecosystem-based approaches, air quality, illegal trade in wildlife, marine litter, science-policy interface, GEMS water and desertification,

1. *Approves* the programme of work for the biennium 2016–2017, taking into account relevant decisions of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;

2. 2. *Also approves* appropriations for the Environment Fund in the amount of 271 million United States dollars, of which a maximum of 122 million dollars is allocated to defraying post costs for the biennium for the purposes indicated in the following table:

[1] UNEP/GC.27/9.

Environment Fund programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016–2017

(Thousands of United States dollars)

A. Executive direction and management	**9 500**
B. Programme of work	**231 500**
1. Climate change	42 000
2. Disasters and conflicts	20 500
3. Ecosystem management	40 000
4. Environmental governance	25 000
5. Chemicals and waste	36 000
6. Resource efficiency	49 000
7. Environment under review	19 000
C. Fund programme reserve	**14 000**
D. Programme support	**16 000**
Total	**271 000**

3. *Stresses* the importance of early, extensive and transparent consultations between the Executive Director, member States and the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the preparation of the draft programme of work and budget and the need for timely scheduling of meetings and provision of information to allow the full participation of all member States throughout this process, and in this regard welcomes the progress made;

4. *Recalls* paragraph 13 of Governing Council decision 19/32, and requests the Executive Director to ensure that the secretariat provides the documentation and information related to the medium-term strategy and programme of work and budget to member States and the Committee of Permanent Representatives at least four weeks in advance of the meeting at which it is to be considered;

5. *Emphasizes* the need for comprehensive information, and full justification, regarding proposed expenditures and contributions from all sources of funding, including staffing information, to be provided to the Committee of Permanent Representatives well in advance of consideration of the programme of work and budget, and requests the Executive Director to hold timely consultations on the preparation of all future programmes of work and budgets prior to transmittal to other appropriate bodies;

6. *Stresses* the need for the programme of work and budget to be based on results-based management, and welcomes the progress in the implementation of the medium-term strategy for 2010-2013 as described in the performance report for the biennium 2012-2013;

7. *Notes* the progress made in increasing allocations from the Environment Fund to activities and operations in the 2016-2017 programme;

8. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to reallocate resources between subprogramme budget lines up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the subprogramme appropriation and inform the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and in duly justified exceptional circumstances to reallocate in excess of 10 per cent and up to 20 per cent of the appropriations from which resources are reallocated after prior consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

9. *Also authorizes* the Executive Director to adjust, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the level of Environment Fund allocations to subprogrammes, bringing them into line with possible variations in income compared with the approved level of appropriations;

10. *Further authorizes* the Executive Director to enter into forward commitments not exceeding 20 million United States dollars for Environment Fund activities for the biennium 2018–2019;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to apply a prudent approach to the management of resources from all sources, including the Environment Fund, including through the careful management of contractual arrangements;

12. *Also requests* the Executive Director to continue its current emphasis on the achievement of results for the achievement of programme objectives and the efficient and transparent use of resources to that end, subject to United Nations processes of review, evaluation and oversight;

13. *Further requests* the Executive Director to continue to report to member States, through the Committee of Permanent Representatives on a yearly basis, and to the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its biennial sessions, on the progress made in respect of the performance of each subprogramme and its expected accomplishments and on the execution of the budget of the Environment Fund, including voluntary contributions, expenditures and reallocations of appropriations or adjustments of allocations;[2]

14. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to report to member States, through the Committee of the Permanent Representatives, in a streamlined manner through the merging of progress reporting on administrative and budgetary matters with its programme performance reporting;

15. *Also requests* the Executive Director to continue to organize regular briefings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the programme and budget performance of each subprogramme, to enable the Committee to perform its monitoring task adequately;

16. *Further requests* the Executive Director to ensure that the delivery of the programme of work supports and brings together regional and national programmes and activities in the medium-term strategy for the period 2018-2021 and the biennial programme of work and budget for 2016-2017 and takes into account regional priorities and regional frameworks, where they exist, and requests the Executive Director to include information on regional programmes and activities by region in the progress report on the implementation of the programme of work;

17. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that trust funds and earmarked contributions to the United Nations Environment Programme are used to fund activities that are in line with the programme of work, apart from those funds administered by the United Nations Environment Programme on behalf of other intergovernmental bodies;

18. *Urges* all member States and others in a position to do so to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund, and requests the Executive Director in the light of the universal membership of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue efforts to broaden the donor base and mobilize resources from all sources, including from stakeholders;

19. *Recalls* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development stating that the United Nations Environment Programme should have secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations, and voluntary contributions to fulfil its mandate, and invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations in his budget proposals for an allocation from the United Nations regular budget for 2016-2017 to the United Nations Environment Programme to take into account the need to continue implementing paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a)-(h) of the outcome document, as well as opportunities for increasing the efficient use of resources;

20. *Notes* that the work programme and budget for the biennium 2016–2017 is part of a continuing process and that the allocation of the United Nations regular budget to the United Nations Environment Programme will be approved by the United Nations General Assembly at its seventieth session;

21. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit a report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session on any implications of the latest information on funding on the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2016-2017;

22. *Notes* the positive effect of the Voluntary Indicative Scale of Contributions to broaden the base of contributions to, and to enhance predictability in the voluntary financing of the Environment Fund, and requests the Executive Director to continue adapting the Voluntary Indicative scale of contributions, inter alia, in the light of the universal membership of the United Nations Environment Programme, in accordance with decisions SS.VII/1 and any subsequent decisions, and requests the Executive Director to report to the United Nations Environment at its second session;

23. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide the subcommittee on budgetary matters of the Committee of Permanent Representatives at its second session with options to secure the participation at the open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives and the United Nations Environment Assembly delegates from developing countries, in particular the least developed

[2] UNEP/GC.27/2, para. 11.

countries and small island developing States with special vulnerabilities with a view to informing the Executive Director's next request for regular budget resources through the appropriate channels;

24. *Also requests* the Executive Director, in line with General Assembly resolution 67/213 of 2012, to provide the subcommittee on budgetary matters of the Committee of Permanent Representatives with options to secure the servicing of the governing bodies in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 1972 with a view to informing the Executive Director's next request for regular budget resources through the appropriate channels;

25. *Further requests* the Executive Director to submit for consideration and approval by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, a prioritized, results-oriented and streamlined medium-term strategy for the period 2018-2021 and a programme of work and budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

26. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to monitor and manage the share of the Environment Fund devoted respectively to post costs and non-post costs while clearly prioritizing the application of the resources of the Environment Fund to programme activities.

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Ecosystem-based adaptation

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Noting the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which confirms that climate systems are warming and that global temperatures will continue to rise in the coming decades, if not centuries, even if emissions of greenhouse gases are stabilized, affecting natural systems on which humanity relies and highlighting the need to adapt to the impacts of climate change,

Noting also General Assembly resolution 67/210, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expressed deep concern that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing increased impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea-level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, further threatening food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and emphasized that adaptation to climate change represents an immediate and urgent global priority,

Recalling paragraph 190 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20), entitled "The future we want", which expressed concern that all countries are already experiencing the adverse impacts of climate change, which is threatening efforts to achieve sustainable development, eradicate poverty and achieve food security, and emphasized that climate change is an immediate and urgent priority,

Mindful of decision X/33 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in which parties and other Governments were invited, in accordance with national capacities and circumstances, to integrate ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation into relevant strategies, including adaptation strategies and plans, national action plans to combat desertification, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, poverty reduction strategies, disaster risk reduction strategies and sustainable land management strategies on biodiversity and climate change and the role of ecosystem-based adaptation highlighted therein, and decision XI/15, in which parties were called on to mainstream ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change, ecosystem restoration and invasive species management for human health and wellbeing into all island development and conservation plans projects and build capacity in their application, inviting organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme, to support ecosystem-based adaptation,

Mindful of the work of the Nairobi Work Programme of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the process to support the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans,

Acknowledging the dependence of all countries, particularly developing countries, on ecosystems for livelihoods, food production and well-being, including adaptation to the impacts of climate change,

Noting the United Nations Environment Programme Airica Adaptation Gap Report, which indicates that climate change will affect, among other sectors, biodiversity, water supply, human health and food production, and that it is likely to increase the number of people at risk of hunger as well as the proportion of malnourished people in a region where 22 per cent of the population already suffers from hunger,

Bearing in mind that adaptation and mitigation actions generate multiple co-benefits,

Noting with concern that the resilience of many ecosystems is already being exceeded by an unprecedented combination of climate change, associated disturbances and other drivers,

Recognizing the adverse impacts of climate change among other drivers, on ecosystems and on their ability to meet the needs for local food production and national food security and, inter alia, water resources,

Conscious of the heightened vulnerability of developing countries, particularly the least-developed countries and the small island developing States, to the impacts of climate change,

Recognizing that ecosystem-based approaches should contribute to climate resilient sustainable development in synergy with other adaptation relevant approaches in all sectors,

Recognizing also the sovereignty and stewardship of all countries over their ecosystems and natural resources, which are threatened by climate change and other drivers,

Recalling Governing Council decision 22/3, in which the Council requested the United Nations Environment Programme to support, within available resources and in the light of its programme of work, regional and national action plans to reduce the vulnerability of developing countries to climate change,

Recognizing the ongoing work of the United Nations Environment Programme on ecosystem-based adaptation activities to reduce vulnerability to climate change and subsequent vulnerabilities in areas such as food security, water, health or biodiversity,

Recognizing also the role of civil society, scientific institutions and other relevant stakeholders in providing, inter alia, evidence, tools, case studies, monitoring and best practices in ecosystem-based adaptation,

Recognizing further the need to take into consideration the needs of and engage vulnerable groups and communities in the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation measures,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in partnership with Governments, scientific institutions, United Nations agencies, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, within available resources and in the light of its programme of work, to continue providing and enhance support to developing countries, at their request, for the development and implementation of community-based, national and regional ecosystem-based adaptation programmes and activities through, inter alia, practical tools and pilot projects to demonstrate the use of those tools and other policymaking technical support;

2. *Encourages* all countries to include and improve ecosystem-based adaptation and community-based adaptation in their national policies, including those on climate change adaptation, food security and sustainable management of forests, according to their national circumstances and priorities;

3. *Invites* all countries, in the formulation and implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation and community-based adaptation measures, to consider in an integrated manner indigenous, local and traditional knowledge systems and practices, including, where appropriate, indigenous and local communities' holistic view of community and environment, as one of the a major resource for adapting to climate change;

4. *Invites* all countries to take into consideration ecosystems in their development planning for all relevant sectors, including in their climate change adaptation policies and plans;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to continue its collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant institutions and organizations to integrate ecosystems as key element in national adaptation planning processes, according to the guidelines of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, also taking into account guidance developed under the Convention on Biological Diversity;

6. *Calls upon* countries in position to do so to continue to support the development and implementation of programmes, projects and development policies for adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change that takes into account ecosystems, especially of developing countries at their request;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session on progress in the implementation of the present resolution.

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Implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

Considering the document "The future we want", adopted by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in particular paragraph 99, which encourages action at regional, national, subnational and local levels to promote access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters, as appropriate,

Recognizing that democracy, good governance and the rule of law in national and international programmes are essential to sustainable development,

Underlining that broad participation by the public and access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings contribute to the promotion of sustainable development,

Recalling that the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme in February 2010 adopted the voluntary Guidelines for the Development of National Legislation on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Bali Guidelines),

Recalling also decision 27/2 of the Governing Council as it relates to the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those from developing countries, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions, and the need to explore new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society in its work and that of its subsidiary bodies,

Noting the achievements at the national and regional levels in strengthening rights of access to environmental information and justice and participation in decision-making, as well as outstanding challenges to their implementation and the particular circumstances of each country,

1. *Takes note* of the Declaration on the Application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted by various countries of the region in the margins of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which gave rise to a process aimed at strengthening dialogue and cooperation among the countries of the region to explore the feasibility of adopting a regional instrument on rights of access to information, participation and environmental justice;

2. *Notes* the progress made in that process, coordinated by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in its capacity as technical secretariat;

3. *Takes note* of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, acknowledging the importance given to broad public participation and access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", and in regional and national regimes and processes;

4. *Encourages* countries to continue their efforts to strengthen international dialogue and cooperation, technical assistance and capacity-building in support of the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, taking into account relevant advances, instruments, experiences and practices since its adoption and to work for the strengthening of environmental rule of law at the international, regional and national levels;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to further enhance access to information in future related policies.

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Different visions, approaches, models and tools to achieve environmental sustainability in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Welcoming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", in particular paragraph 56, recognizing that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools available to each country, in accordance with its national circumstances and priorities, to achieve sustainable development,

Noting paragraph 39 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which states that we recognize that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our home and that "Mother Earth" is a common expression in a number of countries and regions, and noting also that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development,

Noting also paragraph 2 of Governing Council decision 27/8, in which the Council acknowledged that there are different approaches, visions, models and tools developed by States Members of the United Nations in order to achieve sustainable development, and in this regard took note of the approach of living well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth as a holistic and integrated approach to sustainable development that can guide humanity to live in harmony with nature and lead to efforts to restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystems,

Welcoming the conceptual framework of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,

Taking note of the declaration of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of 77 and China, "For a New World Order for Living Well", adopted on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary in Santa Cruz, Plurinational State of Bolivia, on 14 and 15 June 2014,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide a report on the basis of the information resulting from paragraph 3 of Governing Council decision 27/8, and to submit the report to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session;

2. *Also requests* the Executive Director to consider organizing a workshop at the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly about different approaches, visions, models and tools for achieving sustainable development, noting the approach of living well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth, and that, in this context, the workshop will provide recommendations to the Executive Director for appropriate further steps and work;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide guidance and to facilitate, through UNEP Live, the visibility of different visions, approaches, models and tools to achieve sustainable development in accordance with paragraph 2 of Governing Council decision 27/8;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to take into consideration the different visions, approaches, models and tools referred to in paragraph 3 of the present resolution during the consultation processes for the Global Environment Outlook and UNEP Live;

5. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to the issue of harmony with nature in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

6. *Invites* countries that wish to do so to implement the living well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth approach in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, according to their national circumstances and priorities.

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Coordination across the United Nations system in the field of the environment, including the Environment Management Group

Draft resolution submitted by the Committee of the Whole

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in particular its paragraph 88,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 67/213 of 21 December 2012, 67/251 of 13 March 2013 and 68/215 of 24 December 2013,

Recalling Governing Council decisions 26/11, SS.XII/2, 27/2 and 27/5 of 22 February 2013,

Determined to strengthen its functions to provide general policy guidance for the direction and coordination of environmental programmes within the United Nations system in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII),

Expressing appreciation for the progress report prepared under the senior officials of the Environment Management Group at their nineteenth meeting and presented by the Executive Director,

Recalling the objectives of the Environment Management Group to assist the United Nations Environment Programme in carrying out its functions related to the promotion of coordinated approaches to environmental issues in the United Nations system and to enhance to the environmental perspectives, in particular the analytical aspects in the work of other United Nations system organizations,

Recalling also Governing Council decision 24/1, recognizing the Environment Management Group as an instrument at the interagency level that assists the United Nations Environment Assembly in enhancing policy coordination across the environmental activities of the United Nations system,

I. Process to prepare a proposal for a United Nations system-wide strategy on the environment

1. *Reiterates* paragraph 3 of Governing Council decision 27/5, and requests the Executive Director, mainly through the Environmental Management Group and in line with paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", to develop system-wide strategies on the environment and to invite the engagement of the Secretary-General and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to facilitate broad ownership in the United Nations at all levels;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to prepare, in consultation with regions, as appropriate, and submit to the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, a report which includes proposals developed in conjunction with the Environment Management Group describing the integration of the outcome of the post-2015 development agenda into the environmental work of the United Nations;

II. Environment Management Group

3. *Notes with appreciation* the continued efforts of the Environment Management Group to enhance interagency cooperation in mainstreaming environmental considerations into activities of the United Nations system at the policy, programme and management levels, in close cooperation with the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director as Chair of the Environment Management Group, in consultation with the Secretary-General and the Chief Executives Board, to identify possible measures to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of the Group and to submit a report with recommendations to the United Nations Environment Assembly for consideration at its second session,

5. *Welcomes* the Online Mapping Knowledge Management Tool on Biodiversity prepared by the Environment Management Group in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, as well as Group's approach to contributing to the midterm review process of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and considering ways to integrate the Aichi Biodiversity Targets into country-level planning tools, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks;

6. *Notes* the contribution of the Environment Management Group to the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, by providing a United Nations Action Plan (2012-2018) for Coordinated Action in the Drylands;

7. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Environment Management Group's Issue Management Group on Sound Management of Chemicals;

8. *Encourages* the Environment Management Group to continue to support efforts for promoting sustainability in the work of the United Nations system, including in the areas of environmental sustainability management and environmental peer reviews.

9. *Requests* the Executive Director in his capacity as Chair of the Environment Management Group to provide a summary report at the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly on the Group's work, highlighting issues that may require the particular attention of the Assembly;

10. *Also requests* the Executive Director in his capacity as Chair of the Environment Management Group to transmit the summary report to the governing bodies of the Group's members.